

RELEASE 160/2024

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26 November 2024.

The 2023 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings

Population of Montenegro by foreign languages knowledge

Data in this release relate to the knowledge of foreign languages that is defined as an ability of a person to understand, speak, read, and write a foreign language. Data are collected on the knowledge of a maximum of three foreign languages.

All data are received only based on the declaration of a person who provided the data.

The knowledge of foreign languages is presented for population aged 15 and more, and that is 511 189 inhabitants, of which 262 653 are women, and 248 536 are men.

Data presented in this release relate to foreign languages known by over 1% of population, and there are English, Russian, Italian, German, French, and Spanish.

In Montenegro number of population aged 15 and over that speak some foreign language is 229 558, one foreign language speak 164 180 persons, two foreign languages 53 261, and three and over foreign languages speak 12 117 persons.

The highest percentage of population has the knowledge of English language, i.e. 37.97% out of the total number of population aged 15 and over; knowledge of Russian language is possessed by 7.46%; Italian 4.83%; German 3.72%; French 2.01%, and knowledge of Spanish language is possessed by 1.02% of population aged 15 and over.

Share of population with the knowledge of English language is highest in coastal municipalities, in Budva 54.06%; Kotor 54.05%; Tivat 51.15%; Herceg Novi 47.02%, and in Podgorica 46.83%. The lowest share of English language knowledge is in Petnjica – 13.74%; Pluzine 16.37%, and Savnik 17.54%.

The highest percentage of the knowledge of Russian language is recorded in Zabljak – 18.27%; Mojkovac 15.67%; Savnik 15.43%; Pluzine 14.51%, and in Kolasin 13.25%, while the least percentage is in Gusinje – 1.17% Ulcinj 1.57%, Tuzi 1.79%, and in Rozaje 2.17%.

Italian language is in the highest percentage known in Kotor - 14.88%, than in Cetinje 9.42%, Tivat - 9.04%, Herceg Novi 7.70% and in Bar 6.76%.

The highest percentage of German language knowledge is in Ulcinj – 12.12%, than in Petnjica 9.05%. Rozaje 8.54, Budva 6.36% and in Berane 5.87%.

French language is mostly known in Petnjica – 4.57%, than in Kolasin 2.92%, Tivat 2.91%, Cetinje 2.75% and Budva 2.67%, while Spanish language is mostly known in Kotor – 2.44%, Bar 1.57%, Budva 1.53%, than in Podgorica 1.48% and in Cetinje – 1.39%.

Observed by sex, females have a higher percentage of knowledge in almost all of the listed foreign languages, except German language, where males are more represented, with 53.62% compared to 46.38% in favor of males. The greatest dominance of females is in the knowledge of French (61.46% to 38.54%) and Spanish (65.69% to 34.31%).

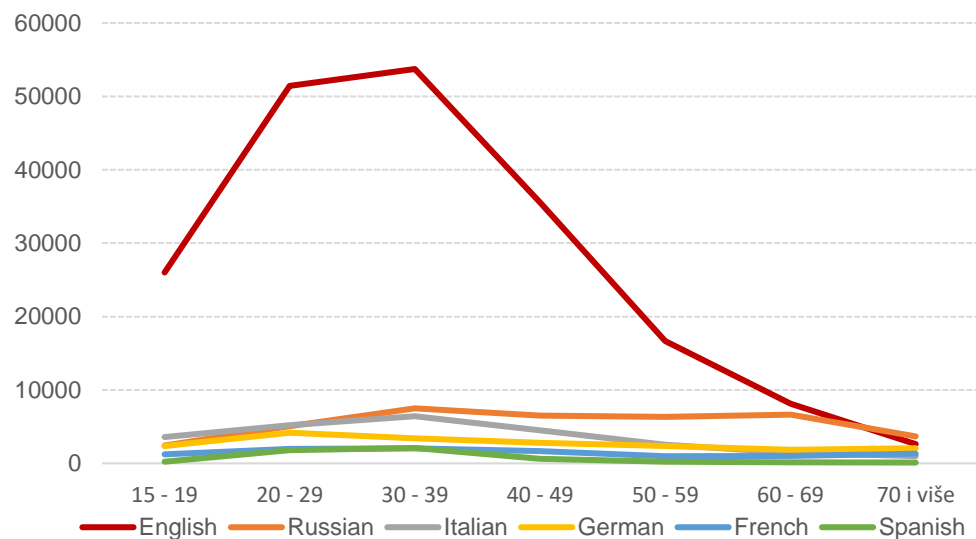
Table 1. Population aged 15 and more knowing some of mentioned languages, by municipalities

Municipalities	Total	English	<i>in %</i>	Russian	<i>in %</i>	Italian	<i>in %</i>	German	<i>in %</i>	French	<i>in %</i>	Spanish	<i>in %</i>
Montenegro	511 189	194 077	37.97	38 126	7.46	24 667	4.83	19 001	3.72	10 252	2.01	5 197	1.02
Andrijevica	3 316	621	18.73	200	6.03	18	0.54	121	3.65	16	0.48	10	0.30
Bar	37 446	14 891	39.77	2 121	5.66	2 530	6.76	1 788	4.77	766	2.05	587	1.57
Berane	20 269	5 229	25.80	1 166	5.75	101	0.50	1 189	5.87	306	1.51	109	0.54
Bijelo Polje	31 923	8 209	25.72	2 775	8.69	281	0.88	1 205	3.77	384	1.20	92	0.29
Budva	21 647	11 703	54.06	2 865	13.24	1 299	6.00	1 376	6.36	579	2.67	332	1.53
Cetinje	12 342	4 461	36.14	644	5.22	1 163	9.42	186	1.51	340	2.75	171	1.39
Danilovgrad	15 543	4 507	29.00	1 349	8.68	516	3.32	266	1.71	150	0.97	88	0.57
Gusinje	3 410	1 056	30.97	40	1.17	z	z	108	3.17	60	1.76	z	z
Herceg Novi	25 815	12 138	47.02	1 573	6.09	1 987	7.70	1 095	4.24	491	1.90	282	1.09
Kolasin	5 750	1 608	27.97	762	13.25	51	0.89	65	1.13	168	2.92	19	0.33
Kotor	18 852	10 190	54.05	1 087	5.77	2 806	14.88	468	2.48	408	2.16	460	2.44
Mojkovac	5 826	1 449	24.87	913	15.67	106	1.82	65	1.12	25	0.43	20	0.34
Niksic	54 796	18 731	34.18	5 559	10.14	2 159	3.94	1 251	2.28	768	1.40	368	0.67
Petnjica	4 111	565	13.74	140	3.41	z	z	372	9.05	188	4.57	z	z
Plav	7 378	1 881	25.49	285	3.86	58	0.79	409	5.54	126	1.71	27	0.37
Pljevlja	21 232	4 206	19.81	1 607	7.57	94	0.44	269	1.27	348	1.64	45	0.21
Pluzine	1 937	317	16.37	281	14.51	z	z	14	0.72	z	z	z	z
Podgorica	144 001	67 439	46.83	10 974	7.62	8 735	6.07	4 052	2.81	3 832	2.66	2 130	1.48
Rozaje	18 047	3 551	19.68	391	2.17	41	0.23	1 542	8.54	441	2.44	26	0.14
Savnik	1 374	241	17.54	212	15.43	z	z	16	1.16	z	z	z	z
Tivat	13 112	6 707	51.15	1 019	7.77	1 185	9.04	455	3.47	381	2.91	178	1.36
Tuzi	10 210	3 483	34.11	183	1.79	650	6.37	339	3.32	107	1.05	64	0.63
Ulcinj	17 049	6 385	37.45	267	1.57	516	3.03	2 067	12.12	198	1.16	91	0.53
Zabljak	2 551	771	30.22	466	18.27	28	1.10	38	1.49	22	0.86	10	0.39
Zeta	13 252	3 738	28.21	1 247	9.41	298	2.25	245	1.85	142	1.07	70	0.53

Table 2. Population aged 15 and more with knowledge of some of mentioned languages, by age

Age / Language	Total	English	in %	Russian	in %	Italian	in %	German	in %	French	in %	Spanish	in %
Montenegro	511 189	194 077	37.97	38 126	7.46	24 667	4.83	19 001	3.72	10 252	2.01	5 197	1.02
15 - 19	35 250	25 991	73.73	2 430	6.89	3 568	10.12	2 367	6.71	1 236	3.51	243	0.69
20 - 29	73 508	51 405	69.93	5 082	6.91	5 204	7.08	4 173	5.68	1 986	2.70	1 795	2.44
30 - 39	88 793	53 724	60.50	7 496	8.44	6 420	7.23	3 416	3.85	2 038	2.30	2 090	2.35
40 - 49	88 220	35 544	40.29	6 489	7.36	4 512	5.11	2 804	3.18	1 660	1.88	599	0.68
50 - 59	80 064	16 655	20.80	6 325	7.90	2 534	3.16	2 355	2.94	972	1.21	240	0.30
60 - 69	77 577	8 137	10.49	6 649	8.57	1 447	1.87	1 845	2.38	1 031	1.33	124	0.16
70 and over	67 777	2 621	3.87	3 655	5.39	982	1.45	2 041	3.01	1 329	1.96	106	0.16

Graph 1. Population aged 15 and more with knowledge of some of mentioned languages, by age



Graph 2. Population aged 15 and more with knowledge of some of mentioned languages, by age, in %

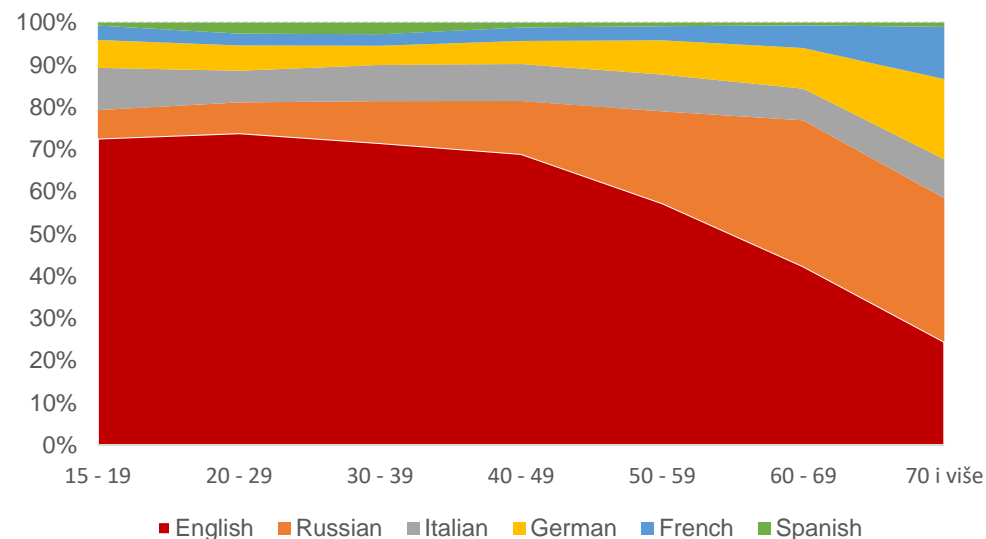


Table 3. Population aged 15 and more with knowledge of some of mentioned languages, by age and sex

Language / Sex	Total	Age													
		15 - 19	<i>in %</i>	20 - 29	<i>in %</i>	30 -39	<i>in %</i>	40 - 49	<i>in %</i>	50 - 59	<i>in %</i>	60 - 69	<i>in %</i>	70 and more	<i>in %</i>
English	194 077	25 991	13.39	51 405	26.49	53 724	27.68	35 544	18.31	16 655	8.58	8 137	4.19	2 621	1.35
male	93 695	13 021	50.10	25 006	48.65	25 280	47.06	16 543	46.54	8 078	48.50	4 221	51.87	1 546	58.99
female	100 382	12 970	49.90	26 399	51.35	28 444	52.94	19 001	53.46	8 577	51.50	3 916	48.13	1 075	41.01
Russian	38 126	2 430	6.37	5 082	13.33	7 496	19.66	6 489	17.02	6 325	16.59	6 649	17.44	3 655	9.59
male	18 482	1 070	44.03	2 192	43.13	3 459	46.14	2 985	46.00	3 026	47.84	3 601	54.16	2 149	58.80
female	19 644	1 360	55.97	2 890	56.87	4 037	53.86	3 504	54.00	3 299	52.16	3 048	45.84	1 506	41.20
Italian	24 667	3 568	14.46	5 204	21.10	6 420	26.03	4 512	18.29	2 534	10.27	1 447	5.87	982	3.98
male	10 799	1 406	39.41	1 805	34.68	2 561	39.89	2 141	47.45	1 407	55.52	888	61.37	591	60.18
female	13 868	2 162	60.59	3 399	65.32	3 859	60.11	2 371	52.55	1 127	44.48	559	38.63	391	39.82
German	19 001	2 367	12.46	4 173	21.96	3 416	17.98	2 804	14.76	2 355	12.39	1 845	9.71	2 041	10.74
male	10 188	1 032	43.60	2 046	49.03	1 805	52.84	1 527	54.46	1 445	61.36	1 109	60.11	1 224	59.97
female	8 813	1 335	56.40	2 127	50.97	1 611	47.16	1 277	45.54	910	38.64	736	39.89	817	40.03
French	10 252	1 236	12.06	1 986	19.37	2 038	19.88	1 660	16.19	972	9.48	1 031	10.06	1 329	12.96
male	3 951	459	37.14	691	34.79	696	34.15	605	36.45	377	38.79	444	43.06	679	51.09
female	6 301	777	62.86	1 295	65.21	1 342	65.85	1 055	63.55	595	61.21	587	56.94	650	48.91
Spanish	5 197	243	4.68	1 795	34.54	2 090	40.22	599	11.53	240	4.62	124	2.39	106	2.04
male	1 783	88	36.21	458	25.52	634	30.33	270	45.08	155	64.58	94	75.81	84	79.25
female	3 414	155	63.79	1 337	74.48	1 456	69.67	329	54.92	85	35.42	30	24.19	22	20.75

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Census of Population, Households and Dwellings was implemented in period from 3 to 30 December 2023, in line with the Methodology for Preparation, Organization and Implementation of the Census. The 2023 Census Methodology is in line with the international standards which determine common rules for collecting the data on population, out which the most important are:

- Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing prepared by UNECE;
- Regulation No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses, as well as other implementation regulations with the respect of the European Statistics Code of Practise.

The Census was implemented according to the situation as on 31 October 2023, at midnight, which is considered to be the reference moment of the census.

The census was done in the traditional manner, by the interview method, using paper questionnaires, 'door-to-door' approach.

The release of the census results is defined by Article 30 of the Law on Census.

Population shall include persons with their usual place of residence in Montenegro.

Usual place of residence shall mean a place where a person usually spends the day, regardless of temporary absence due to recreation, vacation, visiting friends or relatives, business absence, as well as the absence due to treatment or religious pilgrimage, as well as a place where the person stays uninterruptedly, at least one year before the Census reference moment or who has arrived at the usual place of residence in the course of 12 months prior the Census reference moment with the intention of staying there for at least one year.

Knowledge of foreign languages is defined as ability of person to understand, speak, read and write some foreign language. Data are collected for three foreign languages the most.

All data are received exclusively on declaration of a person who provided the data.

Common term "Municipality" is used in this release for 25 local self-government units, for the capital Podgorica, royal capital Cetinje and the reminded 23 local self-government units with the status of municipality.

Pursuant to the Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System, Article 54-61 (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 018/12 of 30 March 2012, 047/19 of 12 August 2019), and internal rule of Statistical Office, the data with frequency of occurrence less than 10 are protected (primary protection) and they are marked with "z". Additionally, other data are marked and protected with the same sign to prevent an indirect recognition of census units (secondary protection).

When using the data state: „Data source: Statistical Office of Montenegro – MONSTAT"

Symbols:

"—" No occurrence

"z" Protected data

More data, as well as detailed methodological explanations can be found under section: [The census of population 2023](#)