
Figure 8.6.
Most frequent combinations of languages
Edition 51: taken from Edition 50, 2013/2014 (data collected in 2012)

This figure is based on the entries of the 1,686 biographees that contain information on language proficiency. In these entries 136 languages are mentioned; these 136 languages are listed in Figure 8.3. Of these 136 languages, 58 are listed by only 1 biographee while 43 are listed by more than 4 biographees; these 43 languages are listed in Figure 8.5.

Ten languages are each listed in the entries of more than 65 biographees. This figure gives totals for combinations of these ten languages. For example: 2 biographees include Arabic and Dutch in the list of languages in which he or she is proficient; 837 biographees include English and French; 212 include French and Italian; 127 include Italian and Spanish.

It should be noted that the figures in these tables are derived from information provided by the biographees themselves; according to general policy, the editors took people at their word and made no effort to check the accuracy of the claims.

See also 7.1. for a complete list of languages, and 7.2. for details on languages used by international organizations.

	Arabic											
Dutch	2		Dutch									
English	66	165	English									
French	43	147	837	French								
German	10	112	469	363	German							
Italian	9	40	224	212	120	Italian						
Portuguese	0	9	77	71	33	37	Portuguese					
Russian	4	4	78	59	43	22	5	Russian				
Spanish	7	42	362	295	135	127	72	26	Spanish			
Swedish	1	3	59	28	36	3	1	5	11	Swedish		