
Figure 8.6.
Most frequent combinations of languages
Edition 50: taken from Edition 49, 2012/2013 (data collected in 2011)

This figure is based on the entries of the 1,486 biographees that contain information on language proficiency. In these entries 138 languages are mentioned; these 138 languages are listed in Figure 8.3. Of these 138 languages, 60 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 table 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; 819 biographees include English and French; 207 include French and Italian; 126 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.

Dutch	Arabic	Dutch									
	2										
English	66	158	English								
French	42	147	819	French							
German	11	114	457	364	German						
Italian	10	38	218	207	118	Italian					
Portuguese	0	9	76	70	33	37	Portuguese				
Russian	5	5	78	62	45	23	5	Russian			
Spanish	8	41	352	294	132	126	72	27	Spanish		
Swedish	1	3	59	29	37	3	1	5	11	Swedish	