

Exhibit 3: Official Languages and Languages of Instruction

Reported by National Research Coordinators

Country	Official Languages and Major Language Subgroups	Languages of Instruction for Reading in the Fourth Grade
Albania	Albanian is the official language.	Albanian is the language of instruction.
Australia	English is the official language. However, according to the 2016 Census, Australians speak over 200 languages, including over 50 actively spoken Australian Indigenous languages. About 21% of Australians speak a language other than English at home. The top 4 languages other than English are Mandarin (2.5%), Arabic (1.4%), Cantonese (1.2%), and Vietnamese (1.2%).	Most students receive reading instruction in English. Some schools provide bilingual instruction, with students receiving reading instruction in English as well as a second language. Some schools provide reading instruction in Indigenous languages in the first 3 to 4 years of education before introducing reading instruction in English.
Austria	German is the official language. Hungarian, Croatian, and Slovenian are the official minority languages.	In almost all schools and grades, German is the classroom language for “Deutsch, Lesen, Schreiben” (German, reading, writing). Schools offering an official minority language as classroom language also use this language for reading instruction. Bilingual schools or schools with a focus on a second language may offer instruction in both languages (e.g., English and German). However, minority rights state that children may be taught in one of the official minority languages (Hungarian, Croatian, Slovenian). Other language subgroups may offer instruction in their language in private schools.
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijani is the official language.	Azerbaijani is the official language of instruction, but the language of reading instruction may be Azerbaijani or Russian (depending on instructional language of classes).
Bahrain	Arabic is the official language.	Arabic is the language of instruction for reading in all government schools and some private schools. In most private schools, English is the language of instruction for reading.
Belgium (Flemish)	Dutch (Flemish), French, and German are the official languages in Belgium. Dutch is the official language in the Flemish Region. Other major language subgroups are Moroccan-Arabic or Berber languages, Turkish, Polish, Romanian, Italian, and Spanish.	Dutch is the only official language of instruction in Flanders; including reading instruction. For the majority of students, this is their native language.
Belgium (French)	French is the official language.	French is the language of reading instruction.
Brazil	Brazilian Portuguese is the official language. Since 2002, Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) has also been official. It is estimated that more than 250 languages are spoken in Brazil.	Brazilian Portuguese is the main language for reading instruction. In some cases, such as indigenous schools, reading instruction can be in the students' native language.
Bulgaria	Bulgarian is the official language. There are groups of students with Turkish and Roma mother tongues.	Bulgarian is the language of reading instruction.
Canada	English, French, and regional Indigenous languages are the official languages.	English and/or French. French can be used as the students' native language (i.e., Francophone) or as an additional language (i.e., French Immersion).
Chinese Taipei	Mandarin (Chinese) is the official language.	Mandarin (Chinese) is the language for reading instruction.
Croatia	Croatian is the official language. Serbian, Italian, Hungarian, and Czech are minority language subgroups.	In a large majority of schools all instruction is in Croatian. In some school models instruction is in Serbian, Italian, Hungarian, or Czech.
Cyprus	Greek and Turkish are the official languages. English is spoken as a foreign language by the vast majority of the population.	In public primary schools, the language of instruction is Greek, even though Greek might not be the native language for some students. Reading instruction in private primary schools might be English.
Czech Republic	Czech is the official language.	Czech is the language of reading instruction.
Denmark	Danish is the official language. There are several minority languages.	Danish is the language of with a very few exceptions (international schools, private schools).
Egypt	Arabic is the official language.	Instruction is in students' native language.
England	English is the official language. According to the 2011 Census, the top 10 other most commonly spoken languages (in order) are: Polish, Punjabi, Urdu, Bengali, Gujarati, Arabic, French, Chinese languages, Portuguese, and Spanish.	English is the language of reading instruction. In the 2020–2021 school year, 80.3% of students had English as a first language. Students who are not native English speakers should receive additional support from teachers.
Finland	Finnish and Swedish are the official languages. The largest minority language groups are Russian, Estonian, Arabic, English and Somali. According to the Constitution, the Sami, as an indigenous people, as well as the Roma and other groups, have the right to maintain and develop their own language and culture.	Reading instruction is in the official teaching language of the school (Finnish, Swedish, or Sami). Students can study Finnish as a second language.
France	French is the official language. The most common regional languages are Occitan, Corsican, Catalan, Breton, Basque, and Creole.	French is the language of instruction in France and the most widely spoken language.
Georgia	Georgian is the official language. In the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia the languages are Georgian and Abkhazian. The major language subgroups are Azerbaijani, Armenian, and Russian.	Considering the multiethnic population of the country, comprising Azeri, Armenian, Russian, Abkhazian, and Ossetian communities, the law stipulates that students have the right to receive general education in their native language.

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Germany	German is the official language. There are several local dialects. For non-native German speakers, the most common first languages are Russian and Turkish.	German is the instructional language for students in fourth grade in all subjects. For the majority of students, German is their native language.
Hong Kong SAR	Chinese and English are the official languages. Cantonese and Putonghua are the major language subgroups.	Reading in primary schools is mainly taught in Cantonese or/and Putonghua. Whether Putonghua or/and Cantonese is used as the medium of instruction used in Chinese Language subject is a school-based decision. For Non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students, Chinese (Cantonese or/and Putonghua) is used as language of instruction in Chinese Language lessons. English is used as language of instruction in English Language lessons. No native languages of Non-Chinese speaking students are used.
Hungary	Hungarian is the official language.	Reading is taught in students' native language.
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	Farsi is the official language. Other major languages are Turki, Arabic, Kordi, Balochi, and Lori.	Farsi is the language of instruction.
Ireland	Irish (Gaeilge) is the first official language of Ireland, while English is recognized as a second official language. Irish Sign Language also has legal status as a native and independent language. Other languages commonly spoken are Polish, Lithuanian, and Romanian.	Each school designates either Irish or English as its 'Language 1' (i.e., the language mainly used for communication and instruction in the school), with the other language as 'Language 2'. Irish is 'Language 1' in about 8% of primary schools, with English as 'Language 1' in the rest. At fourth grade, reading instruction is provided in both languages in all schools, with more time allocated to language and literacy instruction in 'Language 1' than in 'Language 2'.
Israel	Hebrew and Arabic are the official languages.	In Jewish sector schools, Hebrew is the language of instruction and English is studied as a second language, usually starting in Grade 3 or 4. In Arab sector schools, Arabic is the language of instruction, Hebrew is studied as a second language, and English is studied as a foreign language, usually starting in Grade 3 or 4.
Italy	Italian is the official language. Four minority languages are legally recognized: French, Slovenian, German, and Ladino.	In the 4 regions where the minority language is legally recognized, students may attend schools in which the language of instruction is the language of their respective linguistic minority. All subjects (including reading instruction) are taught in the school's language. In certain areas of the country populated by native speakers of other languages, local languages are used in school instruction.
Jordan	Arabic is the official language.	Arabic is the language of instruction. Some private schools teach mathematics and science in English.
Kazakhstan	Kazakh and Russian are the official languages.	Reading instruction in the fourth grade is the same as the language of instruction of school (often Kazakh or Russian). Instruction can also be provided in minority languages such as Uzbek, Uyghur, or Tajik.
Kosovo	Albanian is the official language. Serbian, Turkish, and Bosnian are minority languages.	Reading instruction is in students' native language.
Latvia	Latvian is the official language. Russian is a major language subgroup.	Reading instruction in the fourth grade is in students' native language, as well as in Latvian for Russian students.
Lithuania	Lithuanian is the official language. The major language subgroups are Polish and Russian.	There are schools in Lithuania where the language of instruction is Lithuanian, Polish, Russian and Belarusian. Most Grade 4 students learn to read in their native language.
Macao SAR	Chinese and Portuguese are the official languages, while the dialect Cantonese is spoken most widely in everyday use. Language subgroups include English, and Putonghua.	The Language Education Policy in the Scope of Non-tertiary Education specifies the status of Chinese, Portuguese and English languages in Macao. There is a particular bilingual emphasis (Chinese, Portuguese) in terms of formal languages; and a tri-lingual emphasis (Putonghua, Cantonese and Portuguese) in daily spoken languages. Therefore, reading instruction in the fourth grade (Chinese, Portuguese, and English) is both the native language and second language of students.
Malta	Maltese and English are the official languages.	Reading instruction in fourth grade is in both Maltese and English.
Montenegro	Montenegrin is the official language. Serbian, Bosnian, Croatian, and Albanian are minority language subgroups.	Montenegrin is the language of instruction, but instruction is also provided in minority languages in mixed schools (classes taught in Montenegrin language and in the minority language) or national minority schools (with a complete program in the language of the minority).
Morocco	Arabic and Amazigh are the official languages. Amazigh has 3 dialects: Tacalhit, Tarifit, and Tamazight.	Arabic is the official language of instruction and used to teach reading, mathematics, and science in the primary education. Teachers may use students' native language or Darija to facilitate their learning. French is taught as a subject (more intensely in private schools). Amazigh is taught in few schools in Amazigh areas in addition to Arabic and French.

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Netherlands	Dutch is the first official language. Frisian is the second official language and is spoken as a first language by around 350,000 in the northern province of Friesland.	The vast majority of children receive instruction in Dutch (their native language). Some children in the province of Friesland receive instruction in both Dutch and Frisian.
New Zealand	Te Reo Maori and New Zealand Sign Language are official languages. English is a de facto official language by virtue of its widespread use. Other languages commonly spoken in New Zealand are Samoan, Chinese languages (including Mandarin and Cantonese), Hindi, French, and Tagalog.	Reading is taught mainly in English. Schools and classes using <i>Te Marautanga o Aotearoa</i> teach reading primarily in the Māori language. Some schools provide for bilingual and full immersion learning in a Pacific language such as Samoan, Tongan, or Niuean.
North Macedonia	Macedonian is the official language. Albanian, Turkish, Serbian, and Bosnian are minority language subgroups.	Students receive instruction in their native language.
Northern Ireland	English is the official language.	With the exception of a small number of Irish-medium schools (28 schools and 7 Irish-medium units), the language of instruction is the students' native language.
Norway (5)	Norway and Sami are the official languages. There are two official written forms of Norwegian: Bokmål and Nynorsk. Minority languages include Kven, Romani, Romanes, and Norwegian sign language.	Students with Norwegian as their first language will receive reading instruction in one of the written Norwegian languages (either Bokmål or Nynorsk). Students with Sami as their first language will receive their reading instruction in one of the Sami languages. Students with a first language other than Norwegian and Sami may be entitled to "special language instruction", until he/she has sufficient skills in Norwegian to follow the normal education in school. "Special language instruction" includes Norwegian language education, and if needed/possible also mother tongue education and bilingual education.
Oman	Arabic is the official language. Minority languages include Baluchi, Swahili, and Jabali.	Arabic is the language of instruction in public schools and some private schools. English is the language of instruction for private bilingual schools.
Poland	Polish is the official language.	Polish is the language of instruction. Establishing international classes is rare but possible with approval from the Minister of Education.
Portugal	Portuguese is the official language.	Portuguese is the language of reading instruction for all students. Portuguese is taught as a foreign language for non-native students.
Qatar	Arabic is the native language and English is a second language.	Reading instruction is in Arabic and English.
Russian Federation	Russian is the official language. There are over 30 languages that are officially recognized in Russia, including Tatar, Chechen, and Bashkir.	Russian is the official language of instruction.
Saudi Arabia	Arabic is the official language.	Arabic is the language of instruction except in international schools. English, French, and Urdu are used in international schools.
Serbia	Serbian is the official language. There are 8 minority languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, and Slovak.	Reading instruction is in students' mother tongue. Instruction is provided in minority languages if there are at least 15 students in one school in one grade who speak that language. Instruction in the minority languages in primary school has been organized in 8 languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Romanian, Ruthenian, and Slovak.
Singapore	Malay, Chinese (Mandarin), Tamil, and English are the official languages. Malay is the national language of Singapore, as the Malays, who make up about 13% of Singapore's resident population, are constitutionally recognized as the indigenous people of Singapore. Chinese (Mandarin) is recognized as the mother tongue language of the Chinese, who make up about 74% of Singapore's resident population, while Tamil is spoken by a majority of the Indians, who make up about 9% of Singapore's resident population. Unlike the other 3 mother tongue languages, English is the language of administration and education, and serves as a common language among the different racial and ethnic groups in Singapore. Based on the latest available statistics from the Census of Population 2020, about 48% of Singapore's resident population aged 5 years and older spoke English most frequently at home.	English is the language of instruction for reading in the fourth grade.
Slovak Republic	Slovak is the official language. The major language subgroups are Hungarian, Roma, Ukrainian, and Ruthenian.	Slovak is the language of instruction in Slovak schools. There are also schools with Hungarian, Ukrainian and Ruthenian language of instruction. For Roma children the language of instruction is Slovak, with Roma being a second language in these schools.
Slovenia	Slovenian is the official language. Minority languages include Italian, Hungarian, and Roma.	Slovenian is the language of instruction. The Italian and Hungarian national communities and their members in ethnically mixed areas have the right to education in their respective languages. The Constitution also protects their status and gives special rights to members of the Roma community who live in Slovenia. The children of migrants have the right to compulsory basic education under the same conditions as other citizens of the Republic of Slovenia.

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South Africa	There are 11 official languages: Afrikaans, English, the Nguni group of languages (IsiNdebele, IsiXhosa, isiZulu, SiSwati, and Xitsonga), the Sepedi group of languages (Sepedi, Setswana and Sesotho; and Tshivenda).	Reading instruction is offered in each of the 11 official languages as either the Home Language (HL) or the First Additional Language (FAL). Grade 4 students are expected to receive instruction in 2 official languages.
Spain	Castilian Spanish is the official language. There are 4 additional co-official languages used in the different autonomous communities: Catalan, Galician, Valencian, and Basque.	Castilian is the language of instruction, except in regions with another official language. In these regions, schools use 2 official languages, in proportions determined by the regional educational authorities.
Sweden	Swedish is the official language. Sweden has 5 official minority languages: Finnish, Yiddich, Menkieli, Romani, and Sami.	Swedish is the language of instruction.
Türkiye	Turkish is the official language.	Turkish is the language of instruction.
United Arab Emirates	Arabic is the official language. English is a major language subgroup.	The language of instruction for reading is Arabic. English is taught as a second language.
United States	There is no official national language in the United States, but English is the primary language in the country. In Fall 2018, about 90% of public elementary and secondary students spoke English as their first language. The most common home language for English Learners (EL) was Spanish, followed by Arabic and Chinese.	English is a primary language for reading instruction in the fourth grade. Dual-language immersion schools, which refer to academic programs that are taught in two languages, are available. For English learners, additional English language instructional support is provided.
Uzbekistan	Uzbek is the official language. The major language subgroups are Russian, Karakalpak, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Tadjik, and Turkmen.	Instruction takes place in students' native language. The second language can be chosen as the language of instruction according to parental discretion.
Benchmarking Participants		
Ontario, Canada	English and French are the official languages.	The languages of instruction in Ontario for reading in the fourth grade are Canada's two official languages, English and French. American Sign Language (ASL) and Quebec Sign Language (QSL) may also be used as languages of instruction. In addition to reading instruction in the language of French that begins in Grade 1, Students in French-language school boards begin reading instruction in the English language in the fourth grade. Likewise, in addition to reading instruction in the language of English that begins in Grade 1, students in English-language school boards begin reading instruction in the French language in the fourth grade.
Quebec, Canada	French and English are the official languages.	The language of instruction is French for French-speaking and immigrant students and English for English-speaking students.
Moscow City, Russian Federation	Russian is the official language.	Russian is the language of instruction and is a native language for the majority of students.
Abu Dhabi, UAE	Same as United Arab Emirates	
Dubai, UAE	Arabic is the official language.	The language of instruction in the majority of private schools is English, followed by Arabic.