

Limited English-Speaking Individuals

Kentucky



Kentucky: By The Numbers
<http://kybtn.ca.uky.edu>



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According to the 2021 American Community Survey, between 2017 and 2021, there were 101,826 individuals in Kentucky ages 5 and over who spoke English “less than very well.”

Even though most individuals in the U.S. speak English at home, there are many who speak other languages. In addition, while there are many people who speak another language and have no difficulty with English, there are still individuals who speak English “less than very well.” The Census Bureau measures English proficiency for individuals who are ages 5 and over. Additional information on Limited English Proficiency is available at <https://www.lep.gov/>

For counties with small populations and small population groups within larger counties, the margins of error can be quite large. The margin of error tells us how precise the estimate is by indicating the *range within which the estimate most likely falls*. For help in understanding the margin of error, see the brief Kentucky: By The Numbers publication “*And Now for the Grain of Salt.*”

The Kentucky: By The Numbers Extension Program provides assistance in finding and using publicly available secondary data at: <http://kybtn.ca.uky.edu>

	Kentucky	<i>Margin of Error</i>
Language Spoken at Home		
Population ages 5 and over who speak only English	3,976,217	+/- 5,350
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak only English</i>	94.1%	+/- 0.1%
Population ages 5 and over who speak a language other than English	247,065	+/- 5,224
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak a language other than English</i>	5.9%	+/- 0.1%
Limited English Proficiency (Speak English “Less than Very Well”)		
Population ages 5+ who speak English “less than very well”	101,826	+/- 3,354
<i>Percent of total population ages 5+ who speak English “less than very well”</i>	2.4%	+/- 0.1%
<i>Of those who speak a language <u>other than English</u> at home, the percent who speak English “less than very well”</i>	41.2%	+/- 0.9%
Total Population Ages 5+ who Speak a Language <u>Other than English</u> at Home		
<i>CAUTION: The margins of error may be very large</i>		
Speak Spanish at home	115,833	+/- 2,662
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak Spanish at home</i>	2.7%	+/- 0.1%
Speak other Indo-European languages at home (includes most languages of Europe as well as Slavic, India, Greek, Iranian, Baltic, etc.)	67,156	+/- 3,296
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak other Indo-European languages at home</i>	1.6%	+/- 0.1%
Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages at home (includes Chinese, Japanese, Hmong, Thai, Tamil, Micronesian, etc.)	40,728	+/- 1,716
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak Asian and Pacific Island languages at home</i>	1.0%	+/- 0.1%
Speak other languages at home (includes Arabic, Hebrew, American Indian, Alaska Native, languages of Africa, indigenous languages of Central and South America, etc.)	23,348	+/- 2,372
<i>Percent of population ages 5+ who speak other languages at home</i>	0.6%	+/- 0.1%

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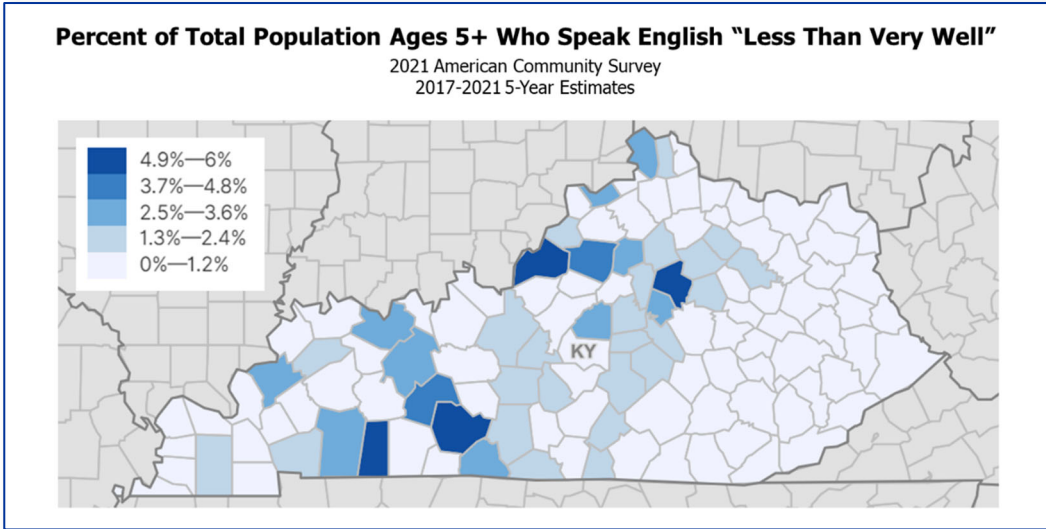
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	Kentucky	Margin of Error
Limited English Proficiency - Speak English "Less than Very Well"		
<i>CAUTION: The margins of error may be very large</i>		
Speak Spanish at home		
Population ages 5+ who speak English "less than very well"	50,531	+/- 1,963
<i>Percent who speak English "less than very well"</i>	43.6%	+/- 1.4%
Speak other Indo-European languages at home (includes most languages of Europe, Slavic, India, Greek, Iranian, etc.)		
Population ages 5+ who speak English "less than very well"	21,465	+/- 1,810
<i>Percent who speak English "less than very well"</i>	32.0%	+/- 1.8%
Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages at home (includes Chinese, Japanese, Hmong, Thai, Tamil, Micronesian, etc.)		
Population ages 5+ who speak English "less than very well"	19,413	+/- 1,319
<i>Percent who speak English "less than very well"</i>	47.7%	+/- 2.1%
Speak other languages at home (includes Arabic, Hebrew, American Indian, Alaska Native, languages of Africa, indigenous languages of Central and South America, etc.)		
Population ages 5+ who speak English "less than very well"	10,417	+/- 1,407
<i>Percent who speak English "less than very well"</i>	44.6%	+/- 3.7%



These data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) Table S1601 at <https://data.census.gov/>

To directly access Table S1601 with these data from the 2021 ACS 5-year estimates, go to [https://data.census.gov/table?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home&g=040XX00US21_21\\$0500000&y=2021&d=ACS+5-Year+Estimates+Subject+Tables&tid=ACSST5Y2021.S1601](https://data.census.gov/table?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home&g=040XX00US21_21$0500000&y=2021&d=ACS+5-Year+Estimates+Subject+Tables&tid=ACSST5Y2021.S1601)

Kentucky: By The Numbers is an Extension program in the Department of Community and Leadership Development at the University of Kentucky. For more information contact your local Cooperative Extension office or Dr. Julie N. Zimmerman, Professor of Rural Sociology, Department of Community and Leadership Development, 500 Garrigus Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546-0215. email: jjimm@uky.edu. The entire series is online at <http://kybtn.ca.uky.edu>



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