

# CANTONESE

Number of Speakers: 259,750

Spoken in  
**261**  
Counties

Spoken in  
**49**  
States

Among the 10  
most common  
languages in  
**13**  
Counties

Among the 10  
most common  
languages in  
**1**  
States

**20**  
Rank among  
the 322  
languages  
spoken in the  
United States

## Leading Counties

By Percentage				By Number of Speakers			
Rank	County	Speakers	Pct.	Rank	County	Speakers	Pct.
1	San Francisco County, Calif.	38,095	5.112%	1	Los Angeles County, Calif.	51,995	0.592%
2	Alameda County, Calif.	20,465	1.520%	2	San Francisco County, Calif.	38,095	5.112%
3	San Mateo County, Calif.	8,575	1.296%	3	Alameda County, Calif.	20,465	1.520%
4	Santa Clara County, Calif.	11,660	0.746%	4	Kings County, N.Y.	15,800	0.692%
5	Kings County, N.Y.	15,800	0.692%	5	Santa Clara County, Calif.	11,660	0.746%
6	New York County, N.Y.	9,640	0.660%	6	Queens County, N.Y.	11,390	0.545%
7	Honolulu County, Hawaii	4,855	0.592%	7	New York County, N.Y.	9,640	0.660%
8	Los Angeles County, Calif.	51,995	0.592%	8	San Mateo County, Calif.	8,575	1.296%
9	Norfolk County, Mass.	3,340	0.549%	9	King County, Wash.	5,435	0.333%
10	Queens County, N.Y.	11,390	0.545%	10	Sacramento County, Calif.	5,425	0.478%
11	Yolo County, Calif.	840	0.535%	11	Honolulu County, Hawaii	4,855	0.592%
12	Sacramento County, Calif.	5,425	0.478%	12	Cook County, Ill.	4,785	0.096%
13	Contra Costa County, Calif.	3,830	0.434%	13	Contra Costa County, Calif.	3,830	0.434%
14	Tompkins County, N.Y.	355	0.386%	14	Norfolk County, Mass.	3,340	0.549%
15	Suffolk County, Mass.	2,415	0.371%	15	Orange County, Calif.	3,190	0.121%
16	King County, Wash.	5,435	0.333%	16	San Diego County, Calif.	2,635	0.101%
17	Richmond County, N.Y.	1,050	0.254%	17	Middlesex County, Mass.	2,430	0.177%
18	Middlesex County, N.J.	1,640	0.234%	18	Suffolk County, Mass.	2,415	0.371%
19	Fort Bend County, Texas	635	0.194%	19	Harris County, Texas	1,915	0.061%
20	Montgomery County, Md.	1,510	0.186%	20	Philadelphia County, Pa.	1,670	0.118%

## Rankings

Indicates the number of divisions where this language was recorded, as well as the number of divisions where the language ranked as one of the most common languages in a given state/county.

	States	Counties
Most common	0	0
2nd most common	0	0
3rd most common	0	0
4th most common	0	1
5th most common	0	1
6th most common	0	1
7th most common	0	0
8th most common	0	2
9th most common	0	3
10th most common	1	5
Total, 1st-5th	0	2
Total, 1st-10th	1	13
Total, any rank	49	261

## Notes

- San Francisco County, Calif. has three-and-one-half times the percentage of Cantonese speakers of any other county in the United States.
- Eight of the 20 counties with the highest percentage of speakers of Cantonese are located in California, including the top four. New York places five counties within the top 20.
- Cantonese is the 10th most common language spoken in California and the 11th most common language spoken in Hawaii.
- Cantonese is the fourth most common language spoken at home in San Francisco County, Calif., and the fifth most common language in San Mateo County, Calif.
- In the United States, 1 of every 1,010 people age five and older speaks Cantonese at home. In California, this figure is 1 in 206 people, while in Hawaii, 1 in 227 residents is a Cantonese speaker.
- Within the counties, San Francisco County, Calif. has the greatest rate of Cantonese speakers (1 in every 19.6 residents), followed by Alameda County, Calif. (1 in every 66 residents) and San Mateo County, Calif. (1 in every 77 residents).

# CANTONESE

Nationwide Rank: 20th

## Leading States

By Percentage				By Number of Speakers			
Rank	State	Speakers	Pct.	Rank	State	Speakers	Pct.
1	California	152,245	0.485%	1	California	152,245	0.485%
2	Hawaii	4,995	0.441%	2	New York	42,050	0.237%
3	New York	42,050	0.237%	3	Massachusetts	8,955	0.150%
4	Massachusetts	8,955	0.150%	4	Washington	6,565	0.119%
5	Washington	6,565	0.119%	5	Illinois	6,215	0.054%
6	Nevada	1,330	0.072%	6	Texas	5,770	0.030%
7	New Jersey	5,415	0.069%	7	New Jersey	5,415	0.069%
8	Maryland	2,740	0.055%	8	Hawaii	4,995	0.441%
9	Illinois	6,215	0.054%	9	Pennsylvania	3,200	0.028%
10	District of Columbia	245	0.045%	t-10	Florida	2,740	0.018%
11	Rhode Island	445	0.045%	t-10	Maryland	2,740	0.055%
12	Utah	770	0.038%	12	Virginia	1,850	0.028%
13	Oregon	1,200	0.038%	13	Michigan	1,485	0.016%
14	Texas	5,770	0.030%	14	Nevada	1,330	0.072%
15	Connecticut	910	0.029%	15	Arizona	1,230	0.026%
16	Virginia	1,850	0.028%	16	Oregon	1,200	0.038%
17	Pennsylvania	3,200	0.028%	17	Georgia	1,155	0.015%
18	Arizona	1,230	0.026%	18	Ohio	965	0.009%
19	Minnesota	960	0.021%	19	Minnesota	960	0.021%
20	Alaska	110	0.019%	20	Connecticut	910	0.029%
21	Delaware	135	0.018%	21	North Carolina	795	0.011%
22	Wyoming	85	0.018%	22	Utah	770	0.038%
23	Florida	2,740	0.018%	23	Missouri	665	0.013%
24	New Hampshire	210	0.018%	24	Wisconsin	545	0.011%
25	Michigan	1,485	0.016%	25	Colorado	540	0.013%
26	Georgia	1,155	0.015%	26	Indiana	465	0.008%
27	Idaho	170	0.014%	27	Rhode Island	445	0.045%
28	Colorado	540	0.013%	28	Oklahoma	335	0.010%
29	Missouri	665	0.013%	29	Louisiana	300	0.007%
30	Wisconsin	545	0.011%	30	South Carolina	275	0.007%
31	North Carolina	795	0.011%	31	District of Columbia	245	0.045%
32	Oklahoma	335	0.010%	32	Tennessee	235	0.004%
33	Ohio	965	0.009%	33	Iowa	230	0.008%
34	Kansas	215	0.009%	34	Mississippi	225	0.009%
35	Mississippi	225	0.009%	35	Kansas	215	0.009%
36	Iowa	230	0.008%	36	New Hampshire	210	0.018%
37	Indiana	465	0.008%	37	Alabama	175	0.004%
38	Maine	90	0.007%	38	Idaho	170	0.014%
39	North Dakota	45	0.007%	39	Arkansas	155	0.006%
40	South Carolina	275	0.007%	40	Delaware	135	0.018%
41	Louisiana	300	0.007%	41	Alaska	110	0.019%
42	Arkansas	155	0.006%	42	Kentucky	105	0.003%
43	Montana	45	0.005%	43	Maine	90	0.007%
44	New Mexico	75	0.004%	44	Wyoming	85	0.018%
45	Tennessee	235	0.004%	45	New Mexico	75	0.004%
46	Alabama	175	0.004%	t-46	Montana	45	0.005%
47	Kentucky	105	0.003%	t-46	North Dakota	45	0.007%
48	Nebraska	40	0.003%	48	Nebraska	40	0.003%
49	West Virginia	25	0.001%	49	West Virginia	25	0.001%