

Multilingual Factors of Literacy in Hungary

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Language	Number of speakers (2011) ^{[1][2]}	Note
Hungarian	9,896,333 (99.6%)	The only official language of Hungary. 9,827,875 people (98.9%) speak it as a first language, while <u>68,458 people (0.7%) speak it as a second language</u>
English	1,589,180 (16.0%)	Foreign language
German	1,111,997 (11.2%)	Foreign language and co-official minority language
Russian	158,497 (1.6%)	Foreign language
Romanian	128,852 (1.3%)	Foreign language and co-official minority language
French	117,121 (1.2%)	Foreign language
Italian	80,837 (0.8%)	Foreign language

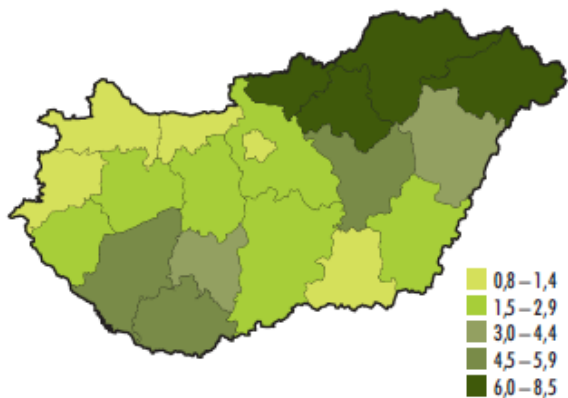
(1) Hungarian census 2011 (population by mother tongue and ethnicity)

(2) Note: percentages do not add up to 100% as, according to the census, large proportion of Hungarians speak more than one language (native and a second language). Not all languages are shown.

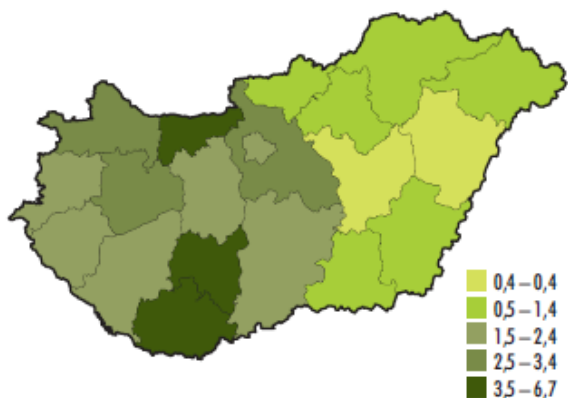
Languages spoken as native

- **German**: spoken by the German minority, especially in and around Mecsek Mountains, but also in other parts of the country.
- **Slovak**: spoken by the Slovak minority, especially in the North Hungarian Mountains and around Békéscsaba
- **Serbian**: spoken by the Serbian minority, especially in and around Bácska and other territories of Southern Hungary.
- **Slovene**: spoken by the Slovene minority, especially around the Slovenian border, Western Hungary.
- **Croatian**: spoken by the Croatian minority, especially in Southern Hungary.
- **Romanian**: spoken by the Romanian minority, especially in and around Gyula, Eastern Hungary.
- **Romani**: spoken by the Roma minority (together with other languages of the gipsy community of 800.000-1.000.000)

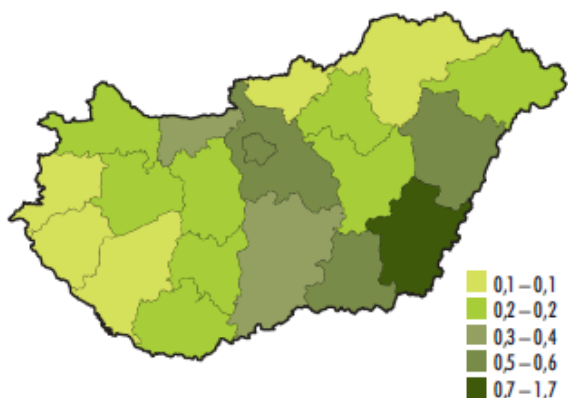
Cigány (roma)



Német

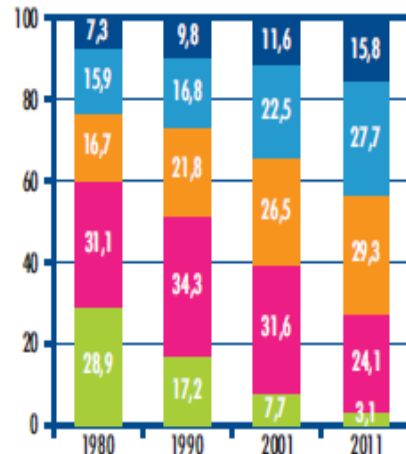


Román



Beszélt nyelv	2001		2011	
	fő	a válaszolók százalékában	fő	a válaszolók százalékában
Hungarian only	7 694 943	80,6	6 273 216	74,6
H + Foreign language	1 851 431	19,4	2 135 833	25,4
English	928 528	9,7	1 336 133	15,9
German	952 887	10,0	937 155	11,1
Russian	177 256	1,9	128 707	1,5

Férfi



Nő



- Egyetem, főiskola stb. oklevéllel
- Érettségi
- Középfokú iskola érettségi nélkül, szakmai oklevéllel
- Általános iskola 8. évfolyam
- Általános iskola 8. évfolyamánál alacsonyabb

Reading and Writing



Üdvözöljük to Hungarian, one of Europe's most curious languages*

"It's like singing," says one fan who can't speak a word of it



There are various theories about Hungarian's origins, but its grammar and vocabulary suggest links to Finnish (and its close cousin, Estonian) and a handful of languages spoken by small communities in Russia -- together known as the Finno-Ugric languages.

* CNN Travel (9 December, 2013)

Linguistic features

Orthography	transparent
Unique features	long vowels and consonants, two letters for one sound (CS, SZ, ZS, LY, GY, NY, TY, liquid assimilation)
Morphology	rich
Unique features	Suffixes, vowel harmony
Grammatical complexity	high
Unique features	free word order verb in present form for future tense

Major challenges

- Better teaching methods
- Foreign language literacy

