

**Figure 7.5.**  
**Languages most commonly used by intergovernmental organizations**  
*Edition 55, 2018/2019 (data collected in 2017)*

The data in this figure are extracted from Figure 7.2.

This figure lists languages in descending order of the number of intergovernmental organizations of Types A to D whose descriptions in Volume 1 of this Yearbook series specify the use, whether officially or informally, of those languages.

See 1.3. "Types of organization" for more information on organization types.

In addition, totals are given at the end of each row by cluster. The organization types allocated to each cluster are as follows:

Cluster I (International organizations): Types A B C D F

Cluster II (Dependent organizations): Types E K R

Cluster III (Organizational substitutes): Types S T

Cluster IV (National organizations): Types G N

Cluster V (Dead, inactive and unconfirmed bodies): Types H J U

| Language     | A-D | CLUSTER |     |     |    |     | TOTAL<br>A-U | Language            | A-D | CLUSTER |    |     |    |   | TOTAL<br>A-U |
|--------------|-----|---------|-----|-----|----|-----|--------------|---------------------|-----|---------|----|-----|----|---|--------------|
|              |     | I       | II  | III | IV | V   |              |                     |     | I       | II | III | IV | V |              |
| English      | 195 | 540     | 551 | 2   | 20 | 277 | 1390         | Latvian             | 2   | 5       | 7  | 0   | 0  | 4 | 16           |
| French +     | 115 | 318     | 345 | 0   | 11 | 222 | 896          | Lithuanian          | 2   | 5       | 7  | 0   | 0  | 4 | 16           |
| Spanish +    | 67  | 171     | 186 | 0   | 3  | 100 | 460          | Maltese             | 2   | 4       | 7  | 0   | 0  | 4 | 15           |
| Arabic +     | 51  | 115     | 116 | 0   | 1  | 60  | 292          | Polish              | 2   | 6       | 9  | 0   | 1  | 8 | 24           |
| Russian      | 34  | 90      | 100 | 0   | 2  | 44  | 236          | Slovakian           | 2   | 5       | 8  | 0   | 1  | 8 | 22           |
| Portuguese + | 33  | 68      | 63  | 0   | 2  | 45  | 178          | Slovene             | 2   | 6       | 8  | 0   | 0  | 5 | 19           |
| German +     | 19  | 48      | 41  | 0   | 6  | 38  | 133          | Bahasa Indonesia+ 1 | 1   | 3       | 0  | 0   | 0  | 1 | 5            |
| Chinese +    | 16  | 44      | 59  | 0   | 1  | 19  | 123          | Bahasa Malaysia + 1 | 1   | 1       | 0  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 2            |
| Swedish      | 12  | 23      | 23  | 0   | 1  | 36  | 83           | Filipino            | 1   | 1       | 3  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 4            |
| Danish       | 11  | 22      | 19  | 0   | 0  | 32  | 73           | Indonesian          | 1   | 1       | 3  | 0   | 0  | 1 | 5            |
| Italian +    | 9   | 22      | 17  | 0   | 1  | 15  | 55           | Japanese            | 1   | 1       | 7  | 0   | 0  | 1 | 9            |
| Norwegian    | 9   | 19      | 15  | 0   | 1  | 24  | 59           | Khmer +             | 1   | 1       | 2  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 3            |
| Dutch +      | 7   | 16      | 18  | 0   | 3  | 15  | 52           | Korean              | 1   | 1       | 1  | 0   | 1  | 0 | 3            |
| Icelandic    | 4   | 11      | 4   | 0   | 0  | 11  | 26           | Malay               | 1   | 1       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 2            |
| Faeroese     | 3   | 8       | 2   | 0   | 1  | 6   | 17           | Persian             | 1   | 1       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 2 | 4            |
| Finnish      | 3   | 8       | 15  | 0   | 0  | 20  | 43           | Swahili +           | 1   | 2       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 2 | 5            |
| Celtic +     | 2   | 4       | 6   | 0   | 0  | 4   | 14           | Tagalog +           | 1   | 1       | 3  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 4            |
| Czech        | 2   | 5       | 10  | 0   | 2  | 8   | 25           | Tai +               | 1   | 1       | 4  | 0   | 1  | 0 | 6            |
| Estonian     | 2   | 5       | 8   | 0   | 0  | 4   | 17           | Tamil               | 1   | 1       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 0 | 2            |
| Greek +      | 2   | 4       | 8   | 0   | 1  | 9   | 22           | Thai +              | 1   | 1       | 3  | 0   | 1  | 0 | 5            |
| Hungarian    | 2   | 5       | 9   | 0   | 0  | 9   | 23           | Turkish             | 1   | 5       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 1 | 7            |
| Irish        | 2   | 4       | 5   | 0   | 0  | 4   | 13           | Vietnamese          | 1   | 1       | 1  | 0   | 0  | 3 | 5            |