

French, the 5th World Language

Number of French speakers in the world

300 million

A very large majority of whom are under 30 years old

5th global language after Mandarin Chinese, English, Spanish and Arabic

French, alongside English, is the only language **spoken on all continents**

French is the **official language** of **32 States and Governments**

From 2014 to 2018, the number of French speakers increased by 9.6%

It is in Africa that the number of French speakers is growing the most **(+17%)**

59% of individuals who speak French daily live in Africa

Teaching

2nd most taught foreign language after English

Across the **five continents**, in nearly all countries

132 million French language learners in 2018:

More than 80 million people study in French

More than 50 million people learn French as a foreign language

Thematic areas

French is the

2nd most used language in diplomacy

3rd most used language in business

4th most used language on the Internet

Source: Report of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (2019 Edition)

<http://observatoire.francophonie.org/qui-parle-francais-dans-le-monde/>