Spanish By The Numbers

- In 2019, nearly 483 million people spoke Spanish as their mother tongue. In addition, the group of potential users of Spanish in the world today exceeds 580 million.

- Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world only surpassed by Mandarin Chinese.

- For demographic reasons, the percent of the world population that speaks Spanish is rising, while the proportion that speaks Chinese, English, and French is descending.

- In 2019, 7.6% of the world population was Spanish-speaking. Forecasts estimate that the number of Spanish-speaking people in 2050 will be higher than that.

- In 2060, the United States is forecast to be the second Spanish-speaking country in the world after Mexico: almost one in three Americans will be Hispanic.

- Close to 22 million students studied Spanish as a foreign language in 2019.

Source: Informe 2019 Instituto Cervantes