

# The language situation in the U.S.

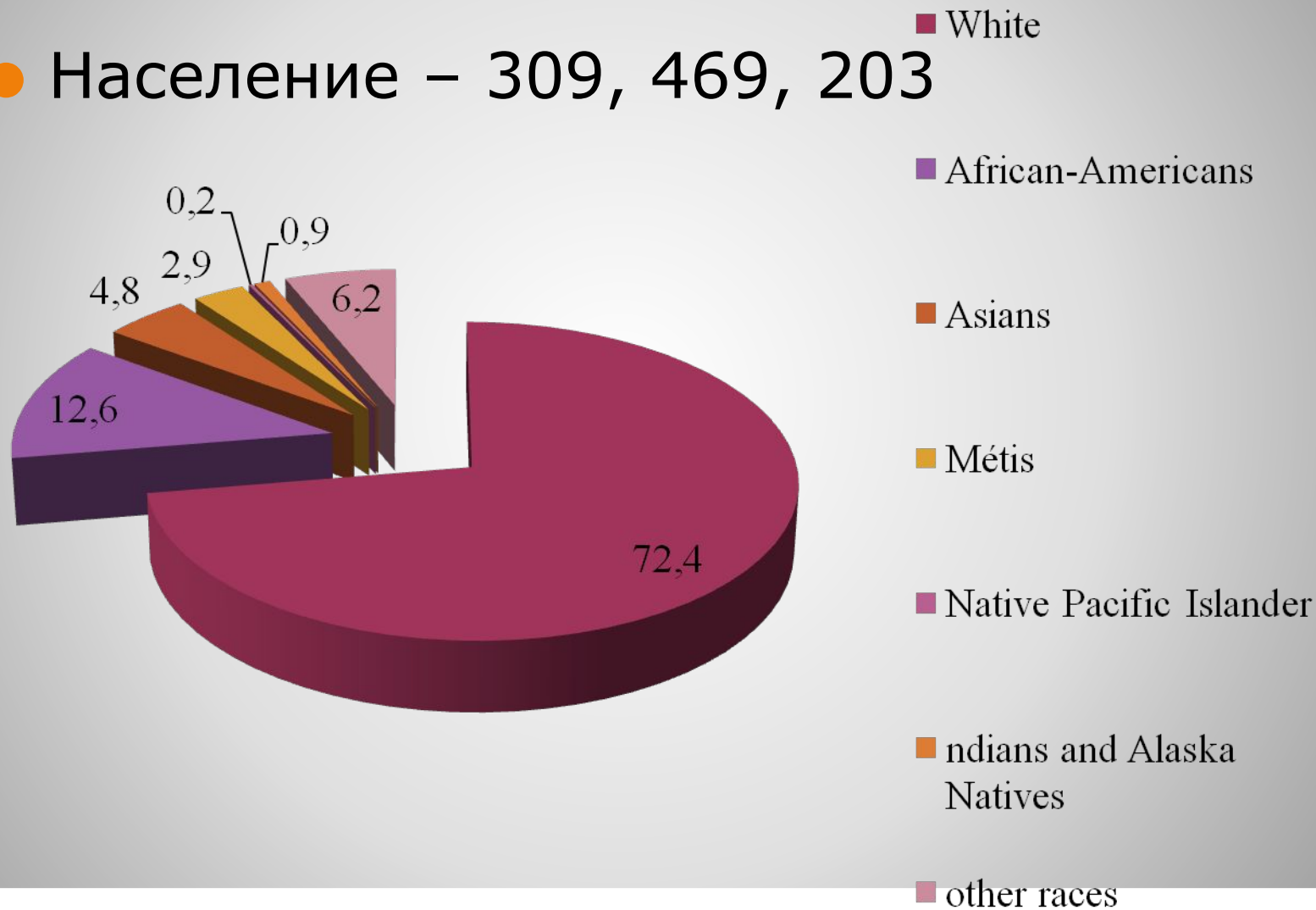
Anna Yaroshenko, 245

# Plan

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# U.S. Population (statistics for 2011)

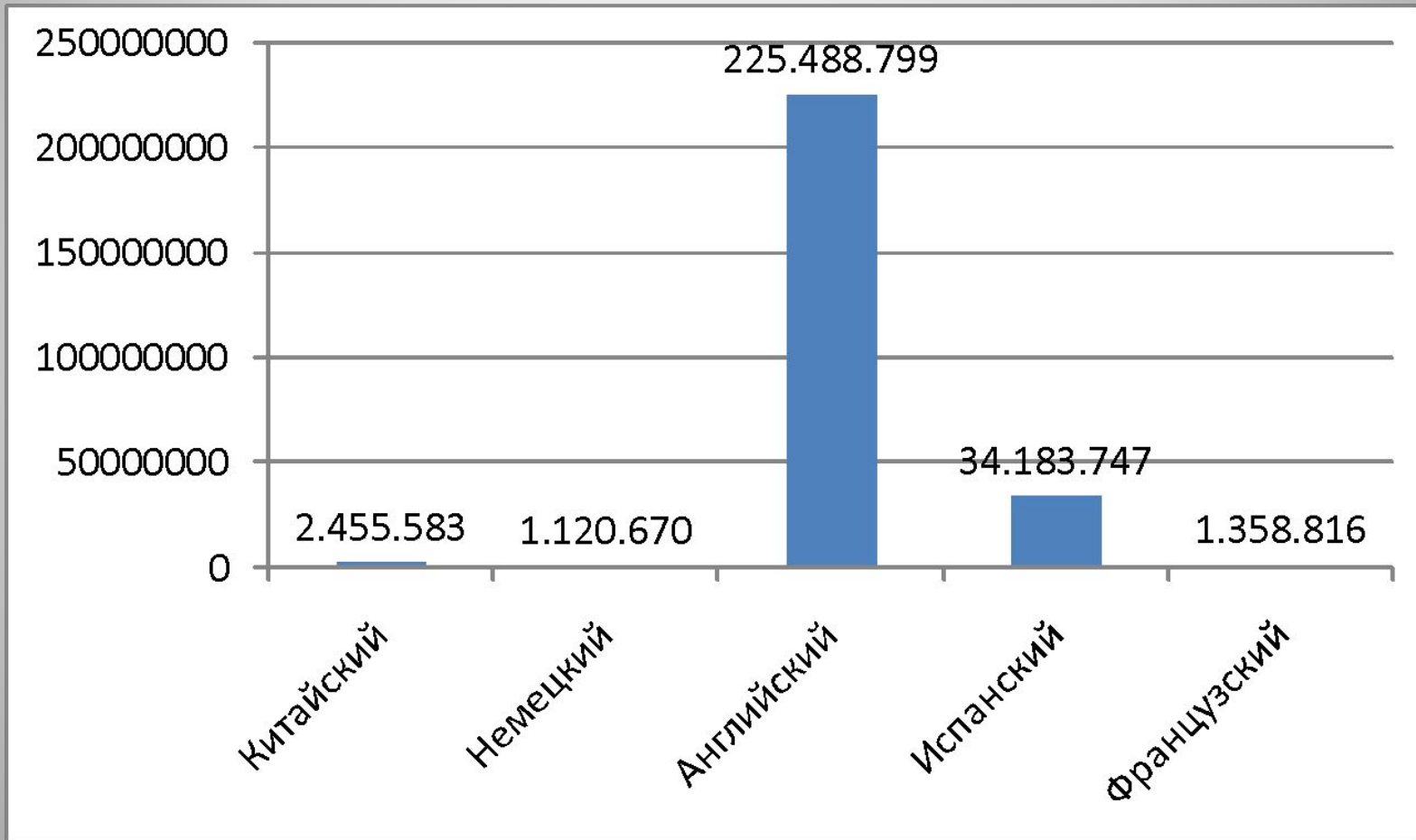
● Население – 309, 469, 203



## Languages in the U.S.

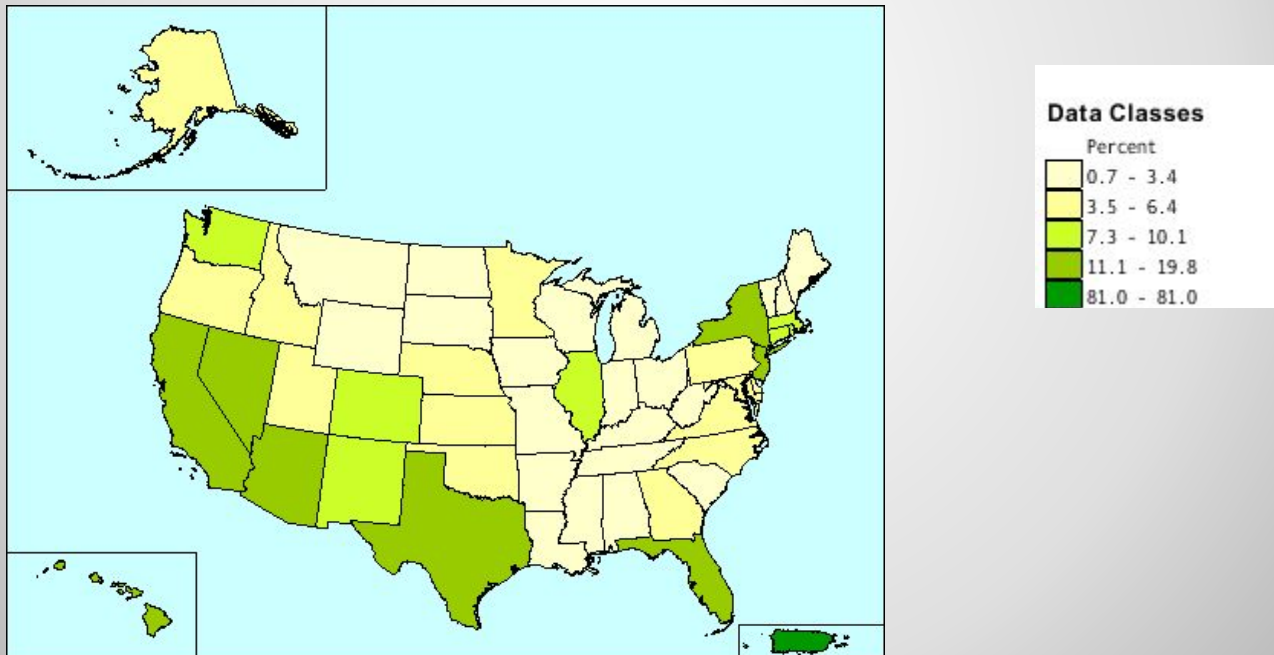
- English (up to 2011. Was not an official at the federal level)
- Spanish (Texas, California, New Mexico)
- French (Louisiana and Maine)
- German (North and South Dakota)
- Slavic languages (Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut)
- Chinese (California, New York, Hawaii, Massachusetts)
- Korean (Hawaii, California, New Jersey)

# Languages spoken at home (2008 data)



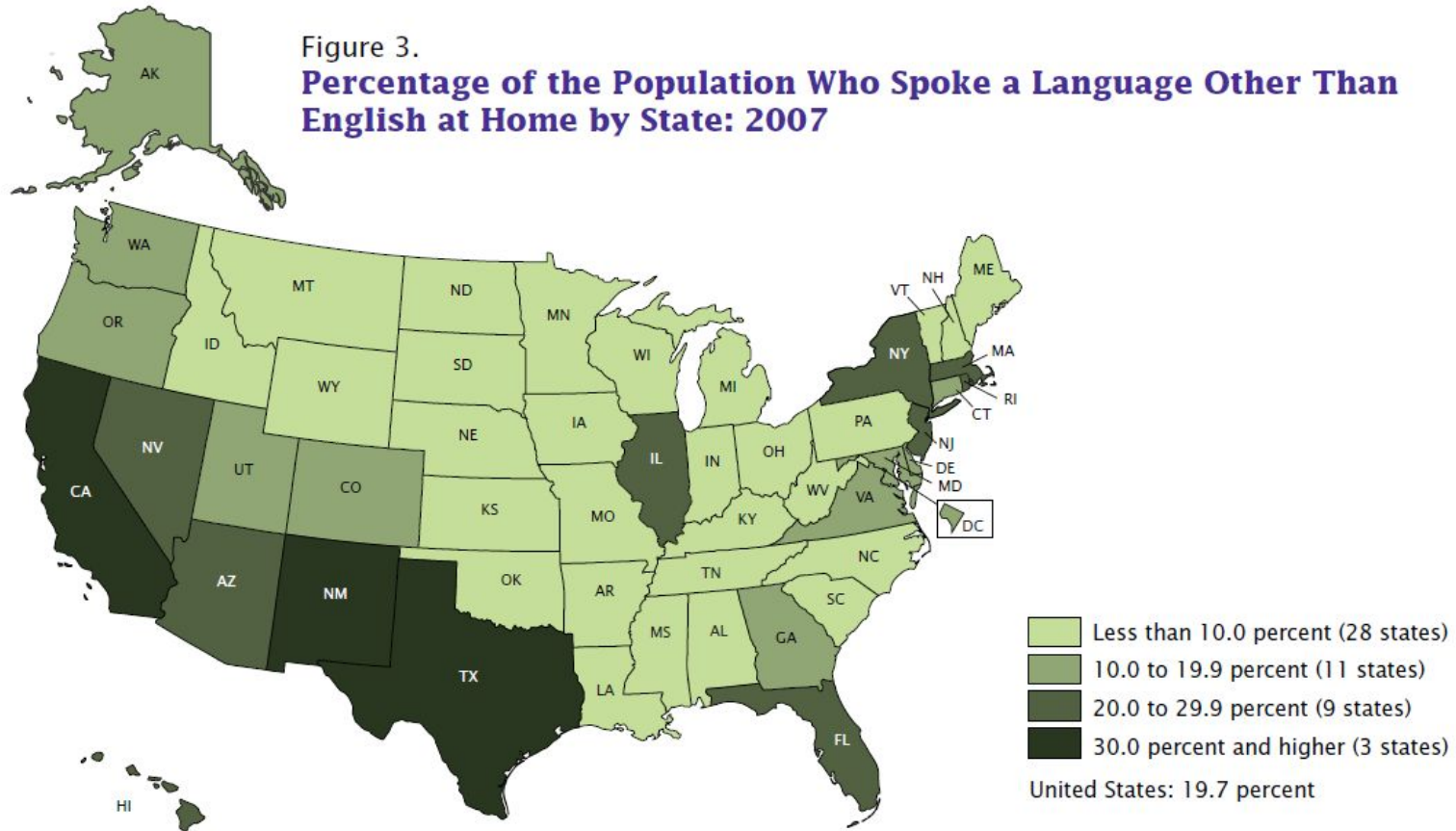
# The lower-middle level of English

- At 24,252,429 people in the U.S. English level lower than the average (data for 2005-2009)



# Percent of population speaking other languages (at home) (2007 data)

Figure 3.  
**Percentage of the Population Who Spoke a Language Other Than English at Home by State: 2007**

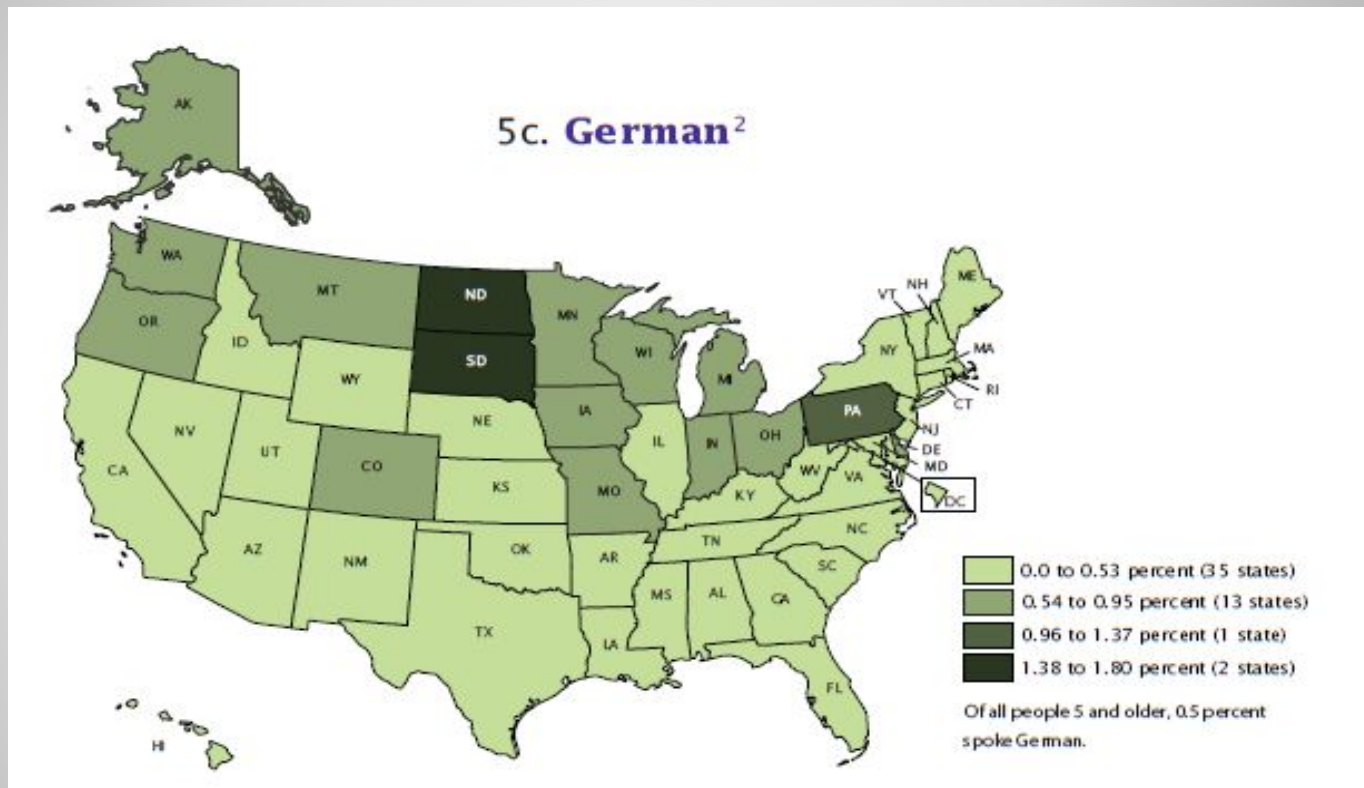


# Spanish as the primary (data for 2005-2009)

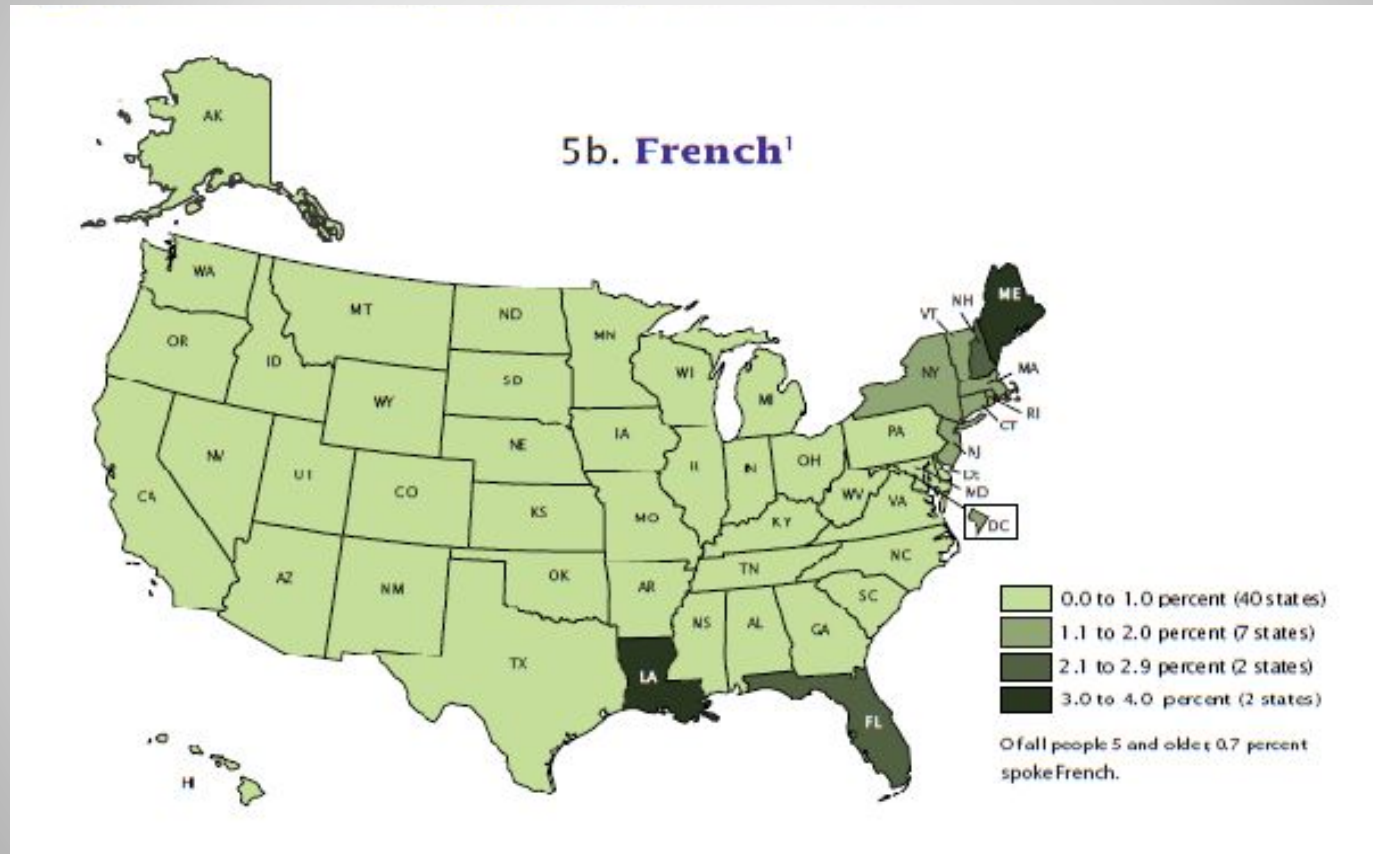




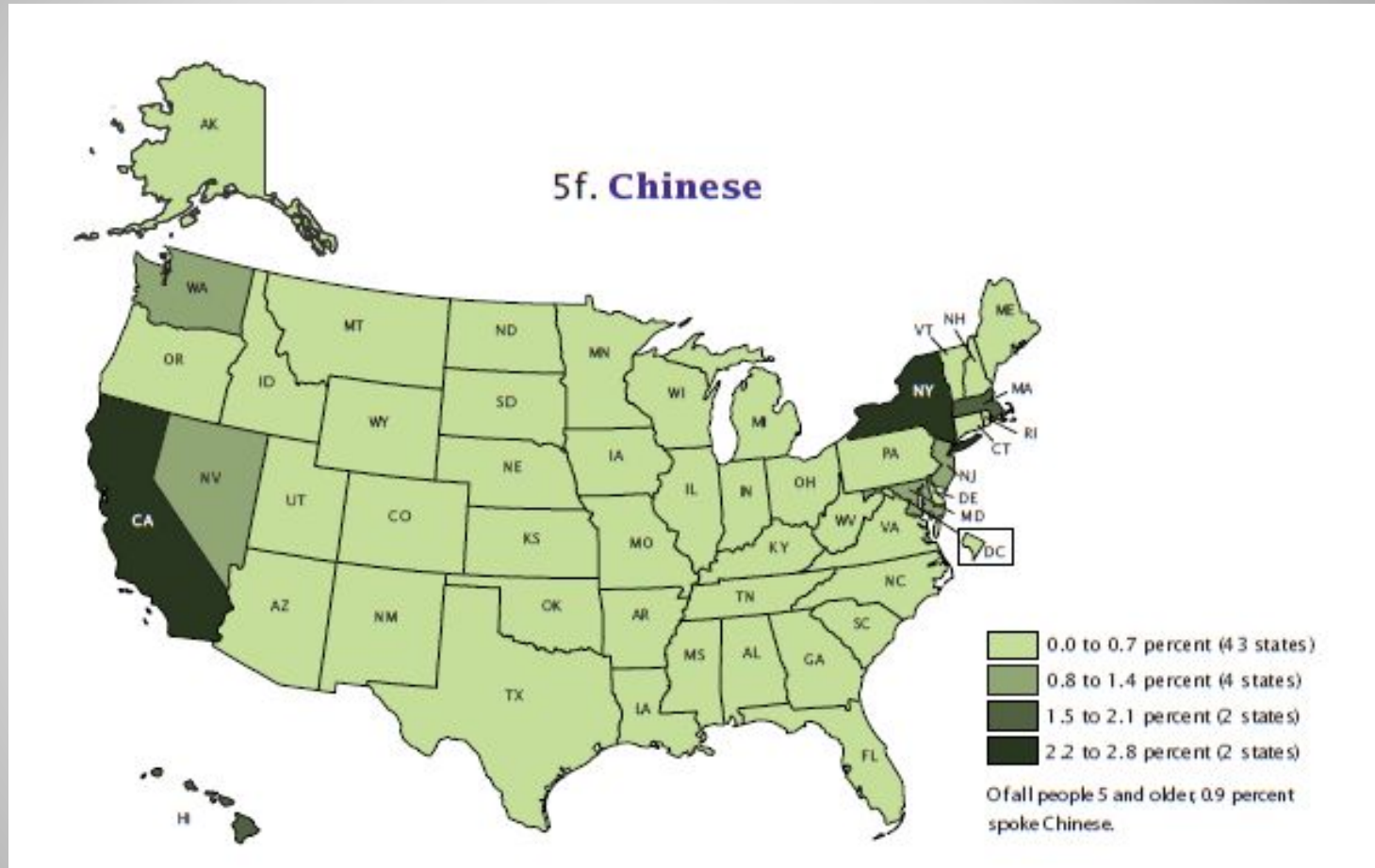
# German language as a primary



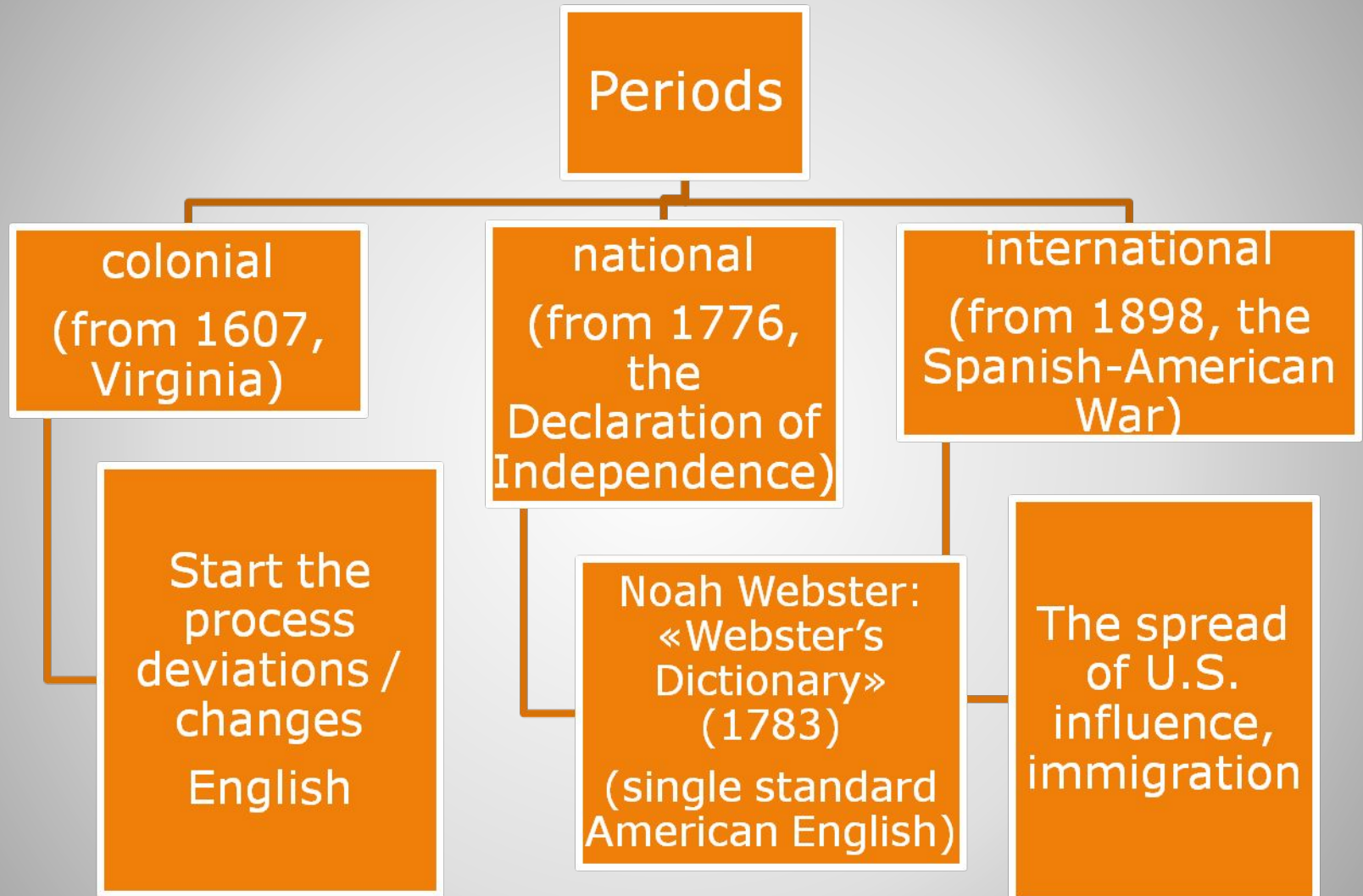
# French as a primary



# Chinese as a primary



# American English: History



# The English-only movement

- movement for the establishment of American English as the sole official language
- 1914: Theodore Roosevelt: "We have room for only one language in this country"
- 1980: Dade County, Florida: confirmation of «anti-bilingual ordinance»
- 1981: English declared the official language in Virginia

# The English-only movement

- 1983: Dr.. John Tanton and Senator S. Hayakawa: The political lobbying organization «US English (organization) » (against the Spanish domination) of the Organization: Larry Pratt:« English First »(1986), Lou Zeske« American Ethnic Coalition »
- 1994: John Tanton: «ProEnglish»
- 1996: «English Language Empowerment Act»: English recognized «the language of official business»
- 1999: «Bill Emerson English Language Empowerment Act» English the official recognition of the efforts
- 2005: «The English Language Unity Act» an attempt to recognize the official English
- 2011: «The English Language Unity Act of 2011" for the official English (pending)



# English Plus movement

1987: The response to the «English-only movement»

Concept:

- English is the official language, but:  
provide opportunities for all immigrants to exercise the rights and responsibilities of full participation in society, maintaining commitment to the society of pluralism, tolerance, and diversity
- encourage the development of the first language an immigrant, which will contribute to the development of language skills, social
- preserve and strengthen the full range of policies and programs of language assistance to ensure that all members of society equal opportunities to exercise their rights and responsibilities: the electoral process, education, legal system, social security and health care

# States with two or more official languages

- English + Hawaii: Hawaii (since 1978)
- English + French Louisiana (from 1807)
- Commitment to the concept of "English Plus": New Mexico (1989), Oregon (1989) Rhode Island (1992), Washington (2007-8, to be confirmed)



# Dialects of American English

- regional
- social
- age
- professional

## Southern dialects

- The consonant "r" at the end of the word is used for the longitude of the preceding vowel: car ['kɑ:]
- If at the end of the word "ng", then the speech is heard only the "n": workin ['wɜ: kin]
- Instead of "i" pronounced "e"

# Regional dialects

## **The northern dialects**

- Long and short vowels sound the same
- Rhotic and non-rhotic

## **The Western dialects:**

- The influence of Hawaiian, Hispanic
- Prefer short vowels
- Rhotic

## **The central dialects:**

- The long vowel sound as soon as Rhotic

# African-American English

«Ebonics» (the working class, "street" language

- «Negro non-standard English» (1960)
- «Black vernacular English» and «Black English» (1970-80)
- 1997: «Ebonics» - the official dialect of English
- Lack of rhoticity, that is, [r] after vowels and syllables at the end of a word
- The ending -ing is pronounced [ŋ] and written as -in ';
- Freestyle rearrangement of the adjacent consonants: graps instead of grasp; aks instead of ask
- English: I won't tell you again, please shut the door.  
Ebonics: I ain't tellin' you no more, shet de do'!

# Spanish English

- Start time: from the language of Chicano, because of immigration to the 19-20 centuries.
- "Switching Code": the alternate use in the same sentence elements in English and Spanish;: Por qué yo? Tú tienes las keys
- the invention of new words «Wachale!» instead of «Watch out!»