

# Over 120 languages spoken in Nashville schools; Spanish, Arabic rank highest after English

This has happened in about the last ten years. Refugee resettlement and illegal immigration are out of control. [The Tennessean](#) reports.

The majority of Nashville students learning English speak Spanish at home, and Arabic speakers comprise the second largest group.

According to statistics provided to the Tennessean by the district, a total of 120 different languages are spoken in Metro schools, with the most popular being **Spanish, Arabic, Kurdish, Somali**, Vietnamese, Burmese, Napali, Amharic, Chinese and Karen.

Spanish speaking students are by far the largest group with 16,896 students, while Arabic and Kurdish round out the top three at 3,435 and 1,181, respectively.

Data shows the number of Metro students requiring special services to learn English has been on the rise, from 8,751 in the 2011-12 school year to 12,329 in 2015-16.

The highest concentration of Arabic students is found at Antioch High School, where about 264 students speak the language.

The situation, for some reason, prompted district officials to launch a new Arabic language program last year, and they apparently targeted Antioch and several other schools with high Arabic student populations to pilot the program.

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