

THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

From **1931** till **1947** this organization was called the **British Commonwealth of Nations** (Британское Содружество наций) and included the countries which were formerly parts of the British Empire. In **1947** it became the **Commonwealth of Nations** (Содружество наций). At present, the **Commonwealth** is an association of **53 independent states**, consulting and co-operating in the **common interests of their peoples** and in the **promotion of international understanding and world peace**. The Commonwealth's **2 billion** citizens, about **30 per cent** of the world's population, have different faiths, races, cultures and traditions. **17 sovereign** countries of the **Commonwealth** (**Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom** among them) recognize the **British Monarch** as the head of their states.

Headquarters

**Marlborough House,
London, UK**

Language

English

Membership

53 Sovereign States

Leaders:

**The British Monarch is the
Head of the Commonwealth**

**The Secretary-General is
the Head of the
Commonwealth Secretariat**

Establishment

**Balfour Declaration
18 November 1926;
Statute of Westminster
11 December 1931;
London Declaration
28 April 1949**

Area

31,462,574 km²

Population

1,921,974,000

Density

61.09/km²

Website

Thecommonwealth.org

Do you know that:

Canada has the longest coastline in the world?

Singapore is the most highly developed nation in the Commonwealth?

Half of the people in the Commonwealth lives in **India**?

The people of **Papua New Guinea** speak over 700 different languages?

All the countries of the Commonwealth share **English** as a common language?

One-third of the world's young people live in the **Commonwealth**?

India was called 'the Jewel in the Crown' due to its highly profitable trade exports?

Every four years the Commonwealth's members celebrate the **Commonwealth Games**, the world's second-largest **multi-sport event** after the **Olympic Games**?



The Members of the British Commonwealth



The Flag of the Commonwealth

ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD

SOVEREIGN STATES

Country	Continent	Population	Country	Continent	Population
Nigeria	Africa	128,771,988	Dominica	America	69,029
South Africa	Africa	44,344,136	Antigua and Barbuda	America	68,722
Sudan	Africa	36,992,490	Saint Kitts and Nevis	America	38,958
Kenya	Africa	33,829,590	India	Asia	1,103,600,000
Uganda	Africa	27,269,482	Pakistan	Asia	162,419,946
Ghana	Africa	21,029,853	Philippines	Asia	87,857,473
Madagascar	Africa	19,280,000	Singapore	Asia	4,425,720
Cameroon	Africa	16,380,005	Belize	Central America	279,457
Zimbabwe	Africa	12,746,990	United Kingdom	Europe	60,441,457
Malawi	Africa	12,158,924	Republic of Ireland	Europe	4,130,700
Zambia	Africa	11,261,795	Malta	Europe	398,534
Rwanda	Africa	8,440,820	United States	North America	300,007,997
Sierra Leone	Africa	6,017,643	Canada	North America	32,300,000
Liberia	Africa	3,482,211	Australia	Oceania	20,800,000
Namibia	Africa	2,030,692	Papua New Guinea	Oceania	5,545,268
Lesotho	Africa	1,867,035	New Zealand	Oceania	4,108,561
Botswana	Africa	1,640,115	Solomon Islands	Oceania	538,032
The Gambia	Africa	1,593,256	Vanuatu	Oceania	205,754
Mauritius	Africa	1,230,602	Micronesia	Oceania	108,105
Swaziland	Africa	1,173,900	Kiribati	Oceania	103,092
Seychelles	Africa	81,188	Marshall Islands	Oceania	59,071
Trinidad and Tobago	America	1,088,644	Palau	Oceania	20,303
The Bahamas	America	301,790	Nauru	Oceania	13,528
Barbados	America	279,254	Niue	Oceania	1,600
Saint Lucia	America	166,312	Tokelau	Oceania	1,400
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	America	117,534	Fiji	Oceania	893,354
Grenada	America	89,502	Jamaica	South America	2,731,832
			Guyana	South America	765,283

DEPENDENT ENTITIES

Entity	Continent	Population	Entity	Continent	Population
Hong Kong	Asia	6,898,686	British Virgin Islands	America	22,643
Puerto Rico	America	3,912,054	Cook Islands	Oceania	21,388
Guam	Oceania	108,708	Turks and Caicos Islands	America	20,556
U.S. Virgin Islands	America	108,708	Anguilla	America	13,254
Jersey	Europe	88,200	Montserrat	America	9,341
Northern Mariana Islands	Oceania	80,801	Saint Helena	Africa	7,460
Isle of Man	Europe	75,049	Falkland Islands	South America	2,967
Bermuda	America	65,365	Norfolk Island	Oceania	1,828
Guernsey	Europe	65,228	Christmas Island	Oceania	1,600
American Samoa	Oceania	64,869	Tristan da Cunha	Africa	273
Cayman Islands	America	44,270	Pitcairn Islands	Oceania	67
Gibraltar	Europe	27,884			

It's interesting to know that:

The status of English as a country's official language does not necessarily correlate with the number of English – speakers in this country.

India, for example, with a population of 1.1 billion, has fewer than 200,000 native speakers of English and approximately 100 million second-language English speakers (who form less than 10% of its population). **Nigeria**, on the other hand, has a small percentage of Standard English second-language speakers; however, more than 60% of its population speak **Nigerian Pidgin English**, which, although not a dialect of **English**, does contain many English words and possesses an English-like grammatical structure.

In some countries English is the dominant language, but it does not have an official status. In **Australia**, English is spoken by the vast majority of the population and is the only language used in government institutions, yet Australia does not have an official language. This is the same in the **U.S.** and the **UK**, although some states within the U.S. or regions within the UK have English as an official language.

Almost all of these countries are current or former colonies or dependencies of the **UK** or the **United States** (the latter also started as a British colony). The notable exception is **Madagascar**, which is a former **French** colony with English speaking neighbours.

Several of these nations, like **India, Canada** and the **Philippines**, use English as an official language but not the only official language. However, many people from the countries in this list (for example the Indians) do not speak English at all.

These nations total **2.135** billion people and cover **15,583,152** square miles.

THE MAP OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD



English as the first language



English as a second language