

JUNE 2019

Day Translations, Inc.

TRANSLATORS SURVEY



2019 OUR MISSION

On June 2019, we went on a mission: to gather data on language professionals in order to understand more about some key aspects of their profession.

As a company with a network of language professionals spread around the globe, we decided to survey 425 individuals both working for us and for other companies, to get some answers.

The subjects of our research anonymously filled out a 10 question survey.

The results of that survey are covered in this document.

We want to share this information not only for other language service providers to better understand the backgrounds and characteristics of their employees, but for aspiring language professionals to better understand what the industry entails.

THE PURPOSE



LANGUAGES TRANSLATED

(BESIDES ENGLISH)

01

SPANISH

Unsurprisingly, since the subjects of the survey work for US-based translation companies, Spanish is the language that most of them work with, at a 34.35%.

02

FRENCH

Coming in second on our survey is French, with a 22.6% of the translators working with the language of love.

03

GERMAN

German is number 3 on the list, with 13.2%. Did you know German is the most spoken mother-tongue in the European Union?

04

PORTUGUESE

11.8% of the translators we surveyed work with Portuguese. For Spanish native speakers, this can be one of the easiest languages to learn and add to their repertoire.

05

RUSSIAN

Despite its difficulty, the official language of space comes in 5th on our list, with 11% translators working with it, slightly fewer than those working with Portuguese.

Other notable mentions: Arabic (8%), Chinese (3.5%), and Italian (3.3%)

INDUSTRIES

60.2%

EDUCATION

66.8%

BUSINESS

64.9%

HEALTHCARE

53.2%

TECHNOLOGY

65.9%

LEGAL SECTOR

45.4%

ENTERTAINMENT

51.8%

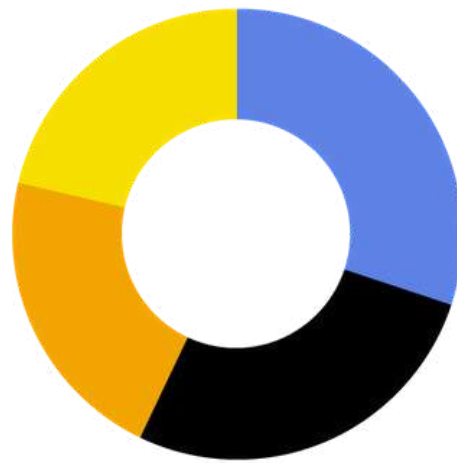
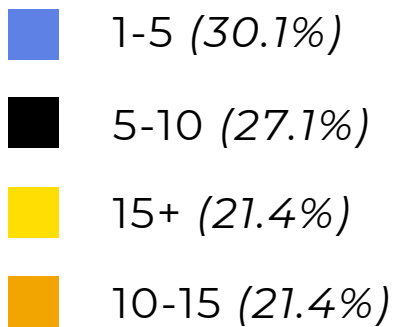
TOURISM

When subjects were asked if they specialized in one industry, they said:

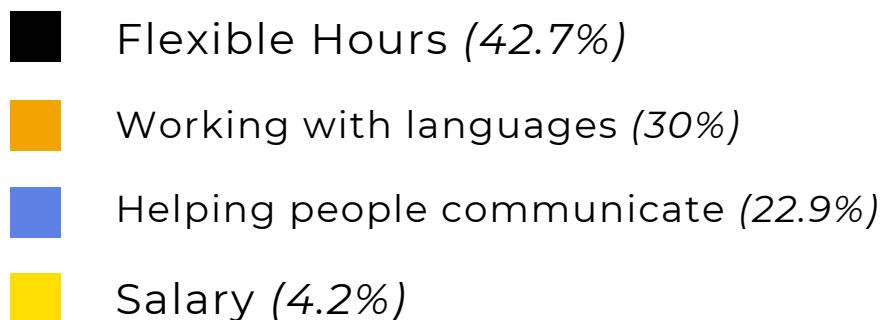
- **49.9%** focus on 1-3 industries
- **38.6%** said they work with all industries
- **11.5%** said they focus solely on 1 industry

BEING A TRANSLATOR

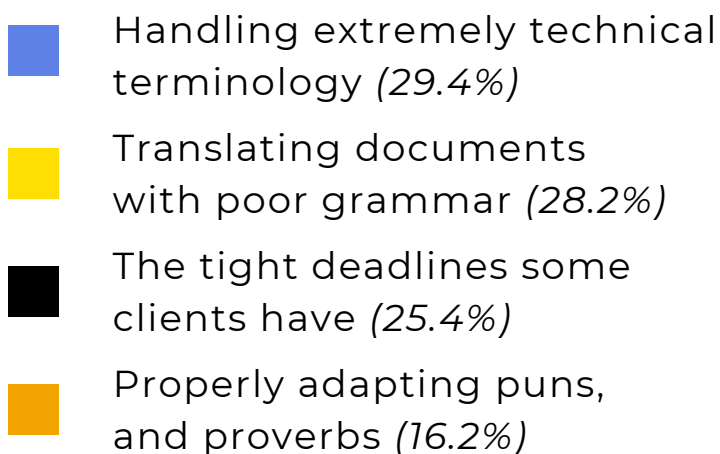
Years of Experience as professional translator:



Best part of being a translator:



Hardest part of being a translator:



LANGUAGE

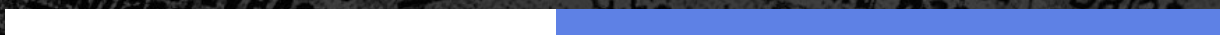
How do translators learn the language they work with?



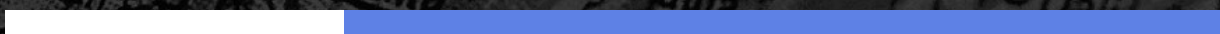
At School (53.9%)



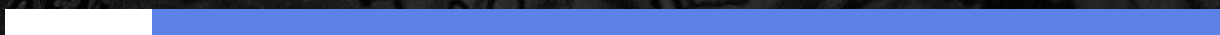
By living in a new country (35.5%)



Taking independent courses (23.3%)



Online / Through language apps (8%)



OTHER LANGUAGE SERVICES

Do translators work as other types of language professionals?

Yes, Interpreter (37.6%)

Yes, Subtitling (26.1%)

Yes, Transcriptionist (19.8%)

Yes, Localization specialist (19.8%)

Yes, Voice-over Artist (6.8%)

No (29.9%)



**WE WANT TO THANK ALL
THE TRANSLATORS THAT
CONTRIBUTED TO THE
MAKING OF THIS SURVEY.**

**FOR TRANSLATION,
INTERPRETING,
LOCALIZATION, SUBTITLING,
AND VOICE-OVER SERVICES
VISIT**

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