

What's in a label?

*Acknowledging
linguistic diversity*

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How many
languages
are there
in the world?

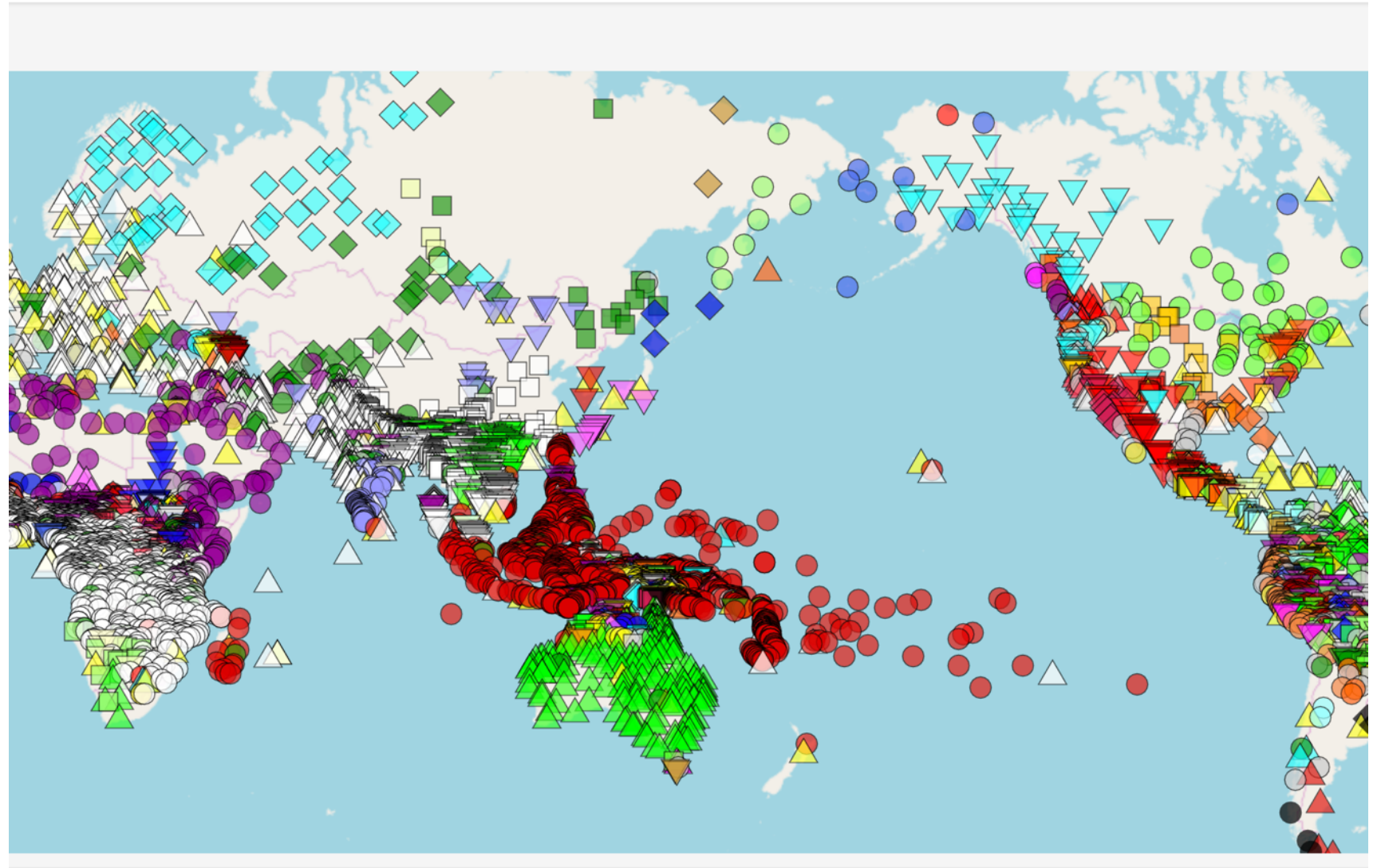
Hard to tell but...



There are more than 7,000 languages around the world!

Oral and sign languages

Indicative of the tremendous cultural diversity of human kind!



Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>, Accessed on 2020-02-10

Diversity and labels

- The labels we use can obscure diversity.
- In this talk
 - Review homogenizing labels used in daily discourse in the United States
 - Reveal linguistic diversity
- Will use the terms “Hispanic,” “Latino,” and “Spanish” to make my argument
 - Will center on the use of these terms in the US Census
 - Will show a couple of other examples to extend to other labels

Homogenizing labels

US Census 2020

Partners

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Get the Facts

How To Respond

Why Your Answers Matter

Privacy and Security

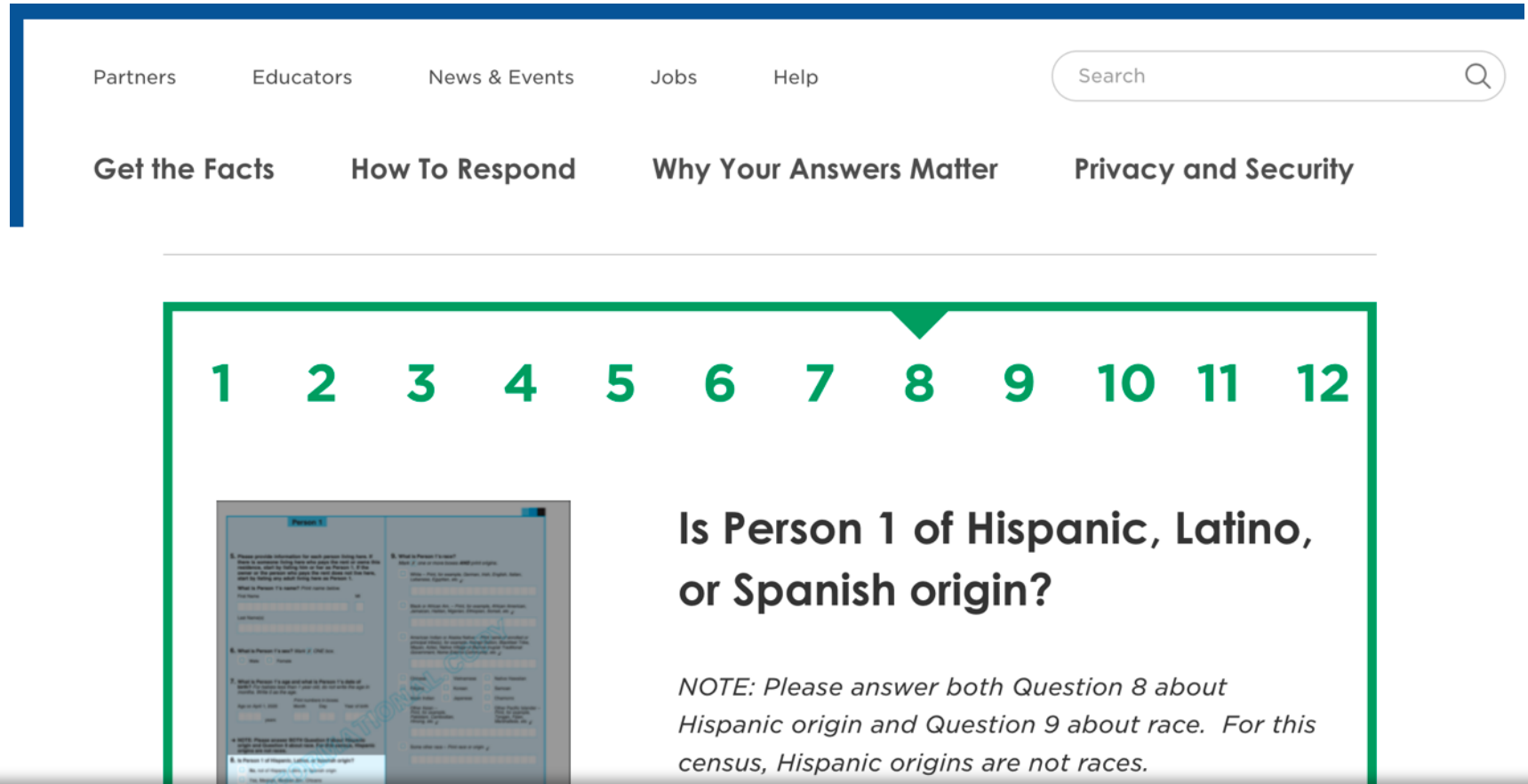
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

NOTE: Please answer both Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races. Hispanic origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before arriving in the United States. People who identify as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish may be any race.

Homogenizing labels

US Census 2020



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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

NOTE: Please answer both Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

Why we ask this question: These responses help create statistics about this ethnic group. This helps federal agencies monitor compliance with anti-discrimination provisions, such as those in the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act.

The terms “Hispanic,” “Latino,” and “Spanish”

- Used interchangeably.
 - Some respondents identify with all three terms, while others may identify with only one
 - People who identify with the terms “Hispanic,” “Latino,” or “Spanish” are
 - those who classify themselves in one of the specific Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish categories listed on the questionnaire (“Mexican,” “Puerto Rican,” or “Cuban”)
 - as well as those who indicate that they are “another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.”
 - from Spain, the **Spanish-speaking countries** of Central or South America, or the Dominican Republic.
- Source: TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION:2010 Census Summary File 1

Diversity within “this ethnic group”

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

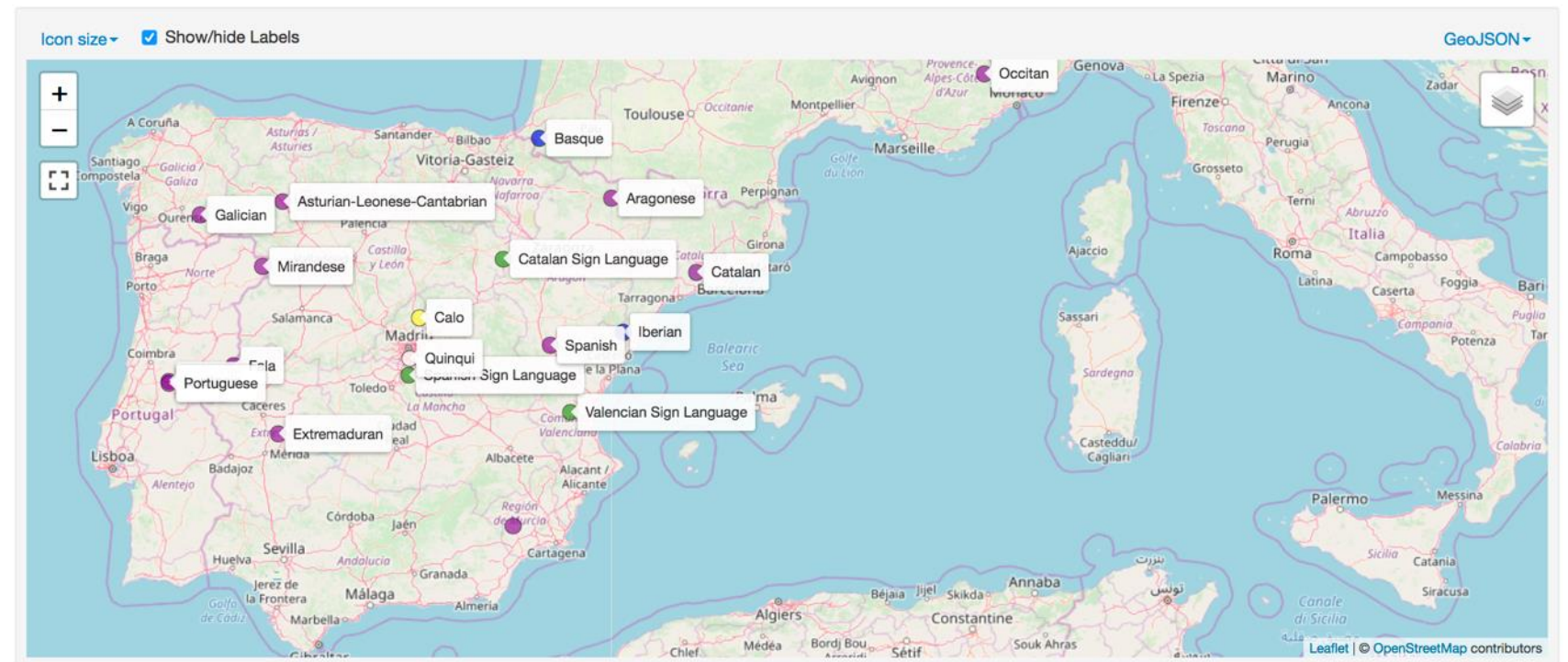
- What languages do people in Spain use?



Diversity within “this ethnic group”

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

Languages of Spain



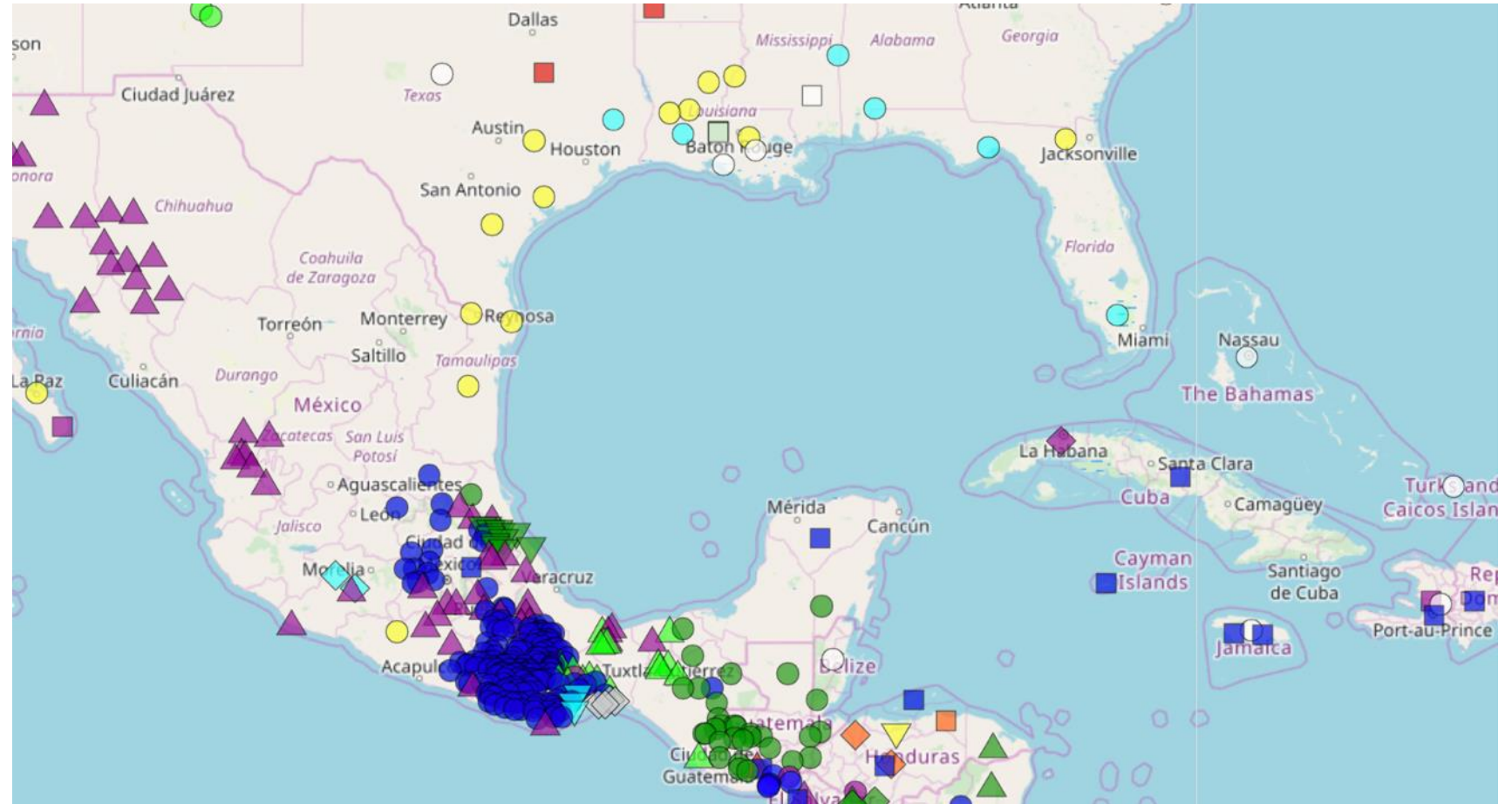
- Iberian
- Basque
- Catalan Sign Language
- Valencian Sign Language
- Spanish Sign Language
- Lusitanian
- Mozarabic
- Aragonese
- Catalan
- Occitan
- Fala
- Galician
- Portuguese
- Asturian-Leonese-Cantabrian
- Mirandese
- Spanish
- Old Spanish
- Extremaduran
- Caló
- Celtiberian
- Judeo-Tunisian Arabic
- Andalusian Arabic
- Guanche
- Tarifit-Beni-Iznasen-Eastern Middle Atlas Berber
- Calo
- Tartessian
- North Picene
- Quinqui
- Roquetas Pidgin Spanish

Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>, Accessed on 2020-02-10

Diversity within “this ethnic group”

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

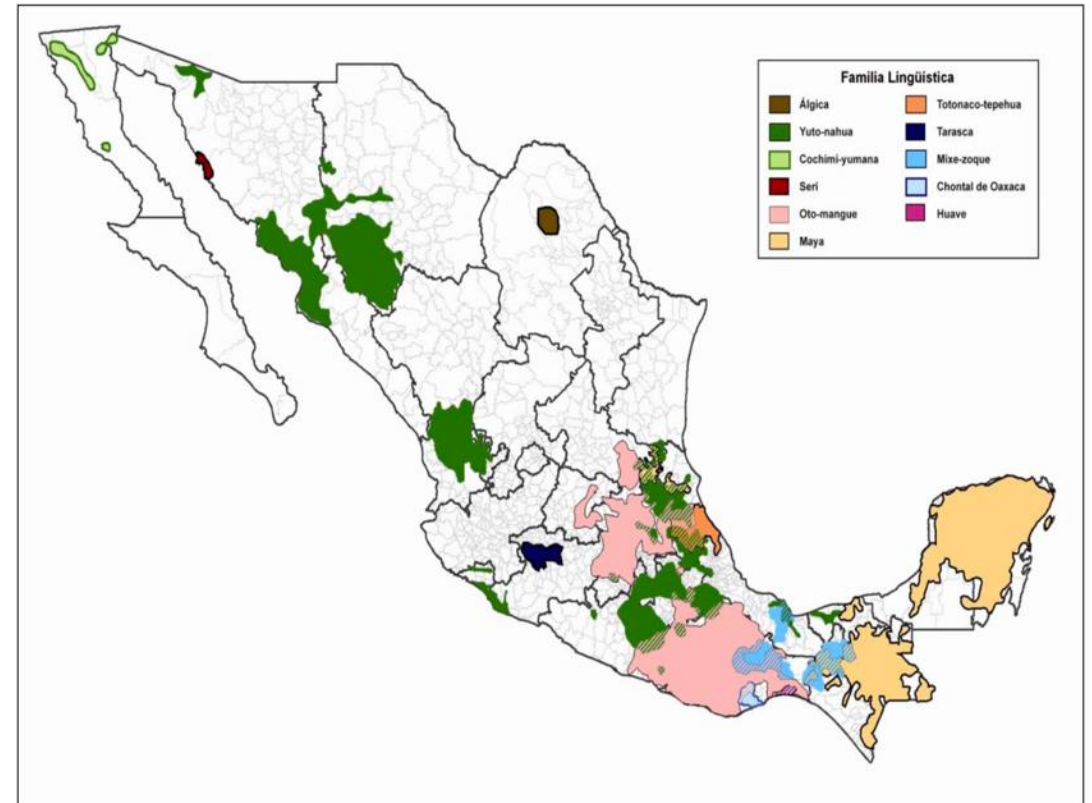
categories listed on the
questionnaire (“Mexican,” “Puerto
Rican,” or “Cuban”)



Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>, Accessed on 2020-02-10

11 Amerindian language families

- I Álgica.
- II Yuto-nahua.
- III Cochimí-yumana.
- IV Seri.
- V Oto-mangue.
- VI Maya.
- VII Totonaco-tepehua.
- VIII Tarasca.
- IX Mixe-zoque.
- X Chontal de Oaxaca.
- XI Huave.



Source: http://www.cdi.gob.mx/pinali_2008-2012/pinali-2008-2012.pdf accessed on February 3, 2020

Mexico data: 68 language groups

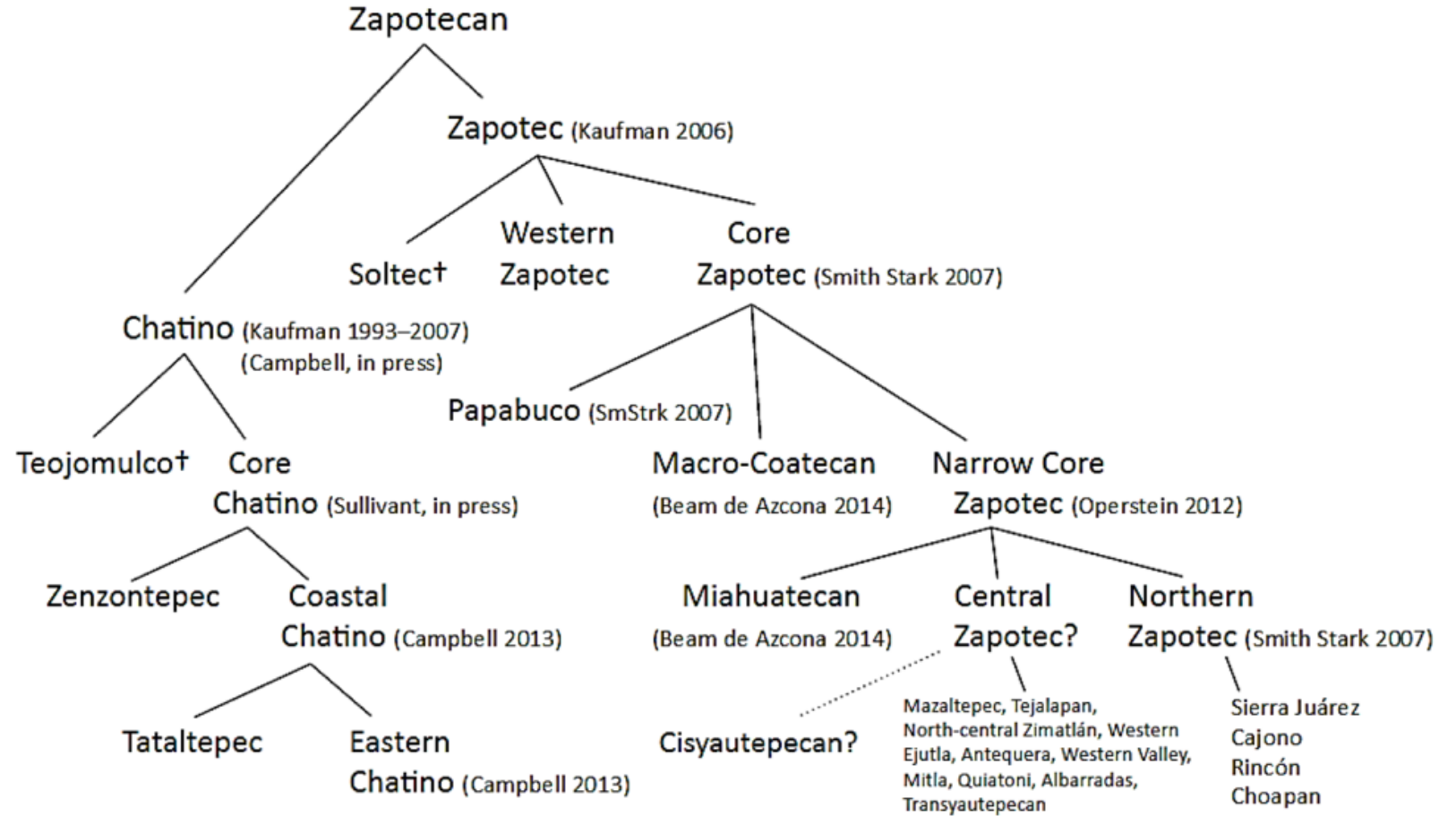
"La categoría agrupación lingüística ocupa el lugar intermedio en los niveles de catalogación aplicados aquí. Se define como el conjunto de variantes lingüísticas comprendidas bajo el nombre dado históricamente a un pueblo indígena."

Akateco	Cuicateco	Lacandón	Pápago	Tepehuano del sur
Amuzgo	Guarijío	Mam	Pima	Texistepequeño
Awakateco	Huasteco	Matlatzinca	Popoloca	Tlahuica
Ayapaneco	Huave	Maya	Popoloca de la Sierra	Tlapaneco
Chatino	Huichol	Mayo	Q'anjob'al	Tojolabal
Chichimeco jonaz	Ixcateco	Mazahua	Qato'k	Totonaco
Chinanteco	Ixil	Mazateco	Q'eqchí'	Triqui
Chocholteco	Jakalteco	Mixe	Sayulteco	Tseltal
Ch'ol	Kaqchikel	Mixteco	Seri	Tsotsil
Chontal de Oaxaca	K'iche'	Náhuatl	Tarahumara	Yaqui
Chontal de Tabasco	Kickapoo	Oluteco	Tarasco	Zapoteco
Chuj	Kiliwa	Otomí	Teko	Zoque
Cora	Ku'ahl	Paipai	Tepehua	
Cucapá	Kumiai	Pame	Tepehuano del norte	

Source: (<https://www.inali.gob.mx/clin-inali/#agrupaciones> accessed on February 3, 2020)

Zapotec

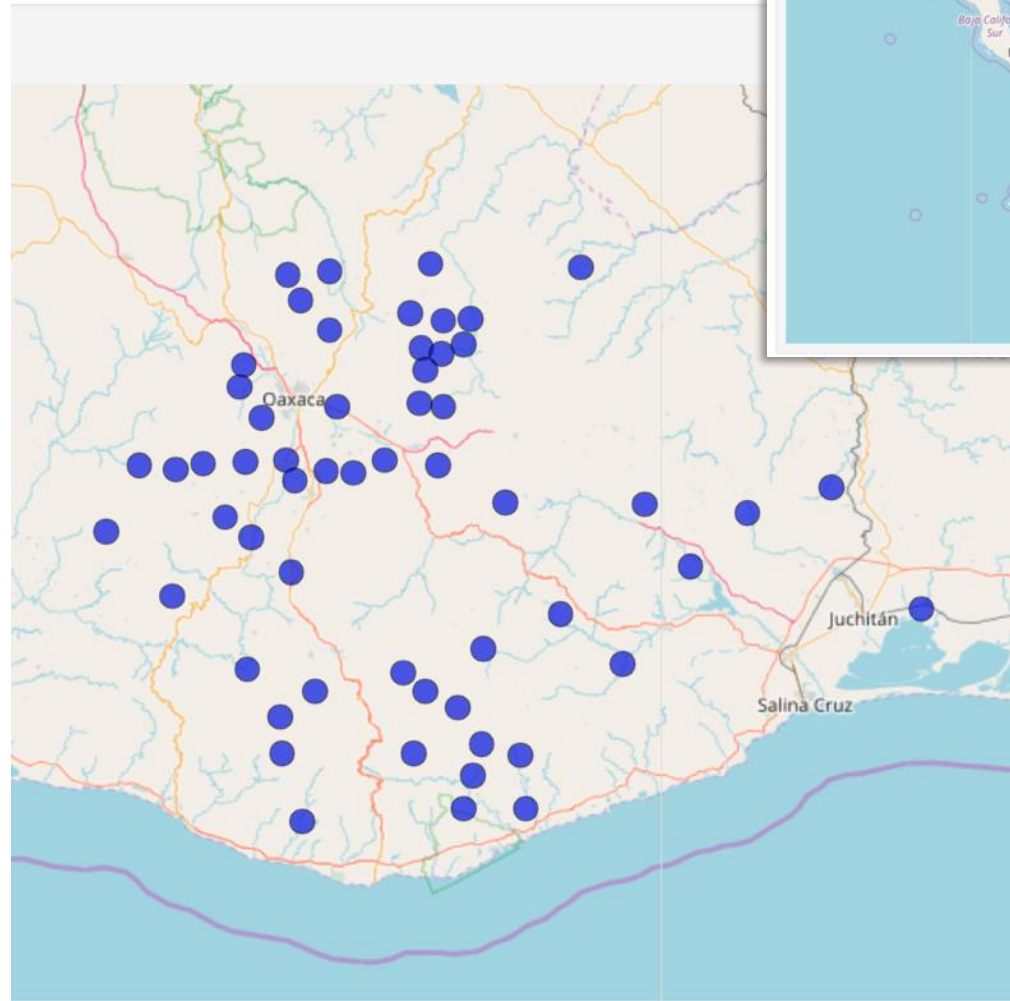
Unknown number of distinct languages



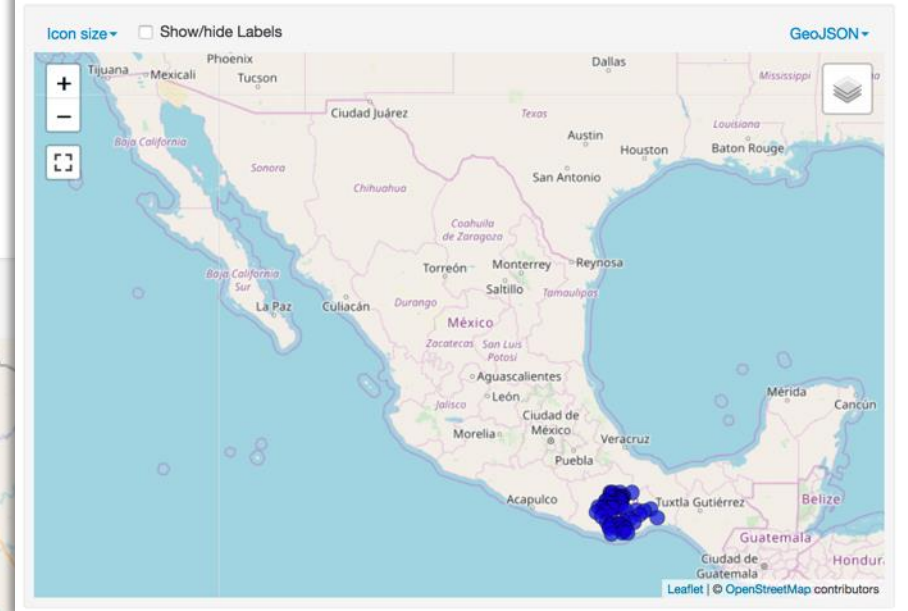
Source: Campbell 2017

Zapotec

Glottolog: 58 languages...and counting



Languages

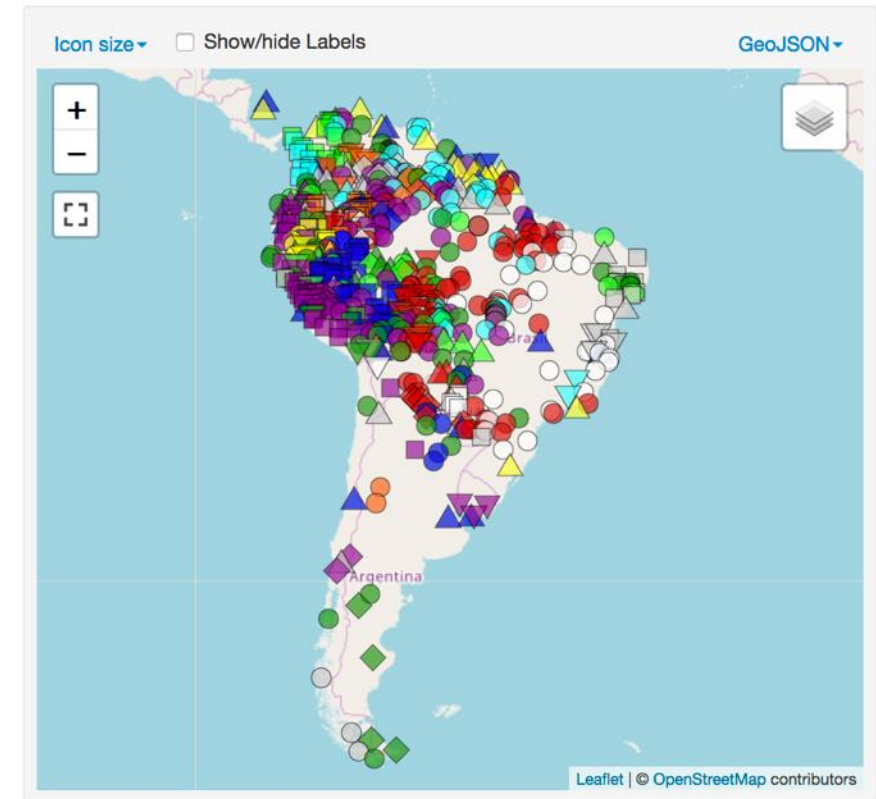


Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>, Accessed on 2020-02-10

“another
Hispanic,
Latino, or
Spanish
origin.”

- “...the **Spanish-speaking countries** of Central or South America, or the Dominican Republic.”
- South America is the world’s region with the greatest genetic diversity in languages
 - number of language families (see Campbell and Grondona 2012).

Languages



Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>,
Accessed on 2020-02-10

Obscured diversity

Why we ask this question: These responses help create statistics about **this ethnic group.** This helps federal agencies monitor compliance with anti-discrimination provisions, such as those in the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act.

- Mexico, Central and South America combined are home to about **a third** of the world's language families
 - 420 language families (including isolates) in the world (Campbell 2012; Hammarstrom 2010)
 - 420 language families / 3 = 140 language families!
- Probably around **1000** languages! (Pérez Báez et al. 2016)
 - Over 360 in Mexico
 - Over 50 in Central America and the Caribbean
 - Over 400 in South America

Homogenizing labels

US Census 2020

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Person 1

9. What is Person 1's race? (Print or check one or more boxes AND print origins.)

Mark 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

What is Person 1's race?

Mark one or more boxes AND print origins: White; Black or African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; Chinese; Filipino; Asian Indian; Vietnamese; Korean; Japanese; other Asian; Native Hawaiian; Samoan; Chamorro; other Pacific Islander; some other race.

Homogenizing labels

US Census 2020 labels	Associated languages
<i>American Indian or Alaska Native</i>	Around 150
<i>Chinese;</i>	Around 330
<i>Filipino;</i>	Over 160
<i>Asian Indian</i>	Around 500
<i>Vietnamese</i>	Over 100
<i>other Asian</i>	!!

Source: Source: Glottolog, <http://glottolog.org>, Accessed on 2020-02-10

- US Census 2000 label “African languages”
 - Glottolog: Over **2300** languages!

Why does this all matter?

Speakers of one of 1000 Indigenous Latin American languages could be in **YOUR** classroom, medical clinic, law practice, work place, neighborhood, etc.



Obscured identities

- They may be overshadowed or misunderstood by the terms “Hispanic,” “Latino,” and “Spanish”
 - Children may be sent to special education if misunderstood as native Spanish speakers
- All of these languages are endangered!
 - (Except Spanish)
 - Pressure to speak Spanish due to the labels “Hispanic,” “Latino,” and “Spanish” heavily contributes towards trends to shift away from the Indigenous languages

What can you
do to support
diversity
awareness?



Foster awareness!

- Foster an environment that values languages other than dominant languages
 - Break away from homogenizing labels!
- Foster a dialogue that allows individuals and communities to open up about their backgrounds and the languages they use

Become informed!



- Explore the world's diversity and its manifestation in your community
- Some resources
 - Glottolog:
 - <https://glottolog.org/>
 - Native Land:
 - <https://native-land.ca/>
 - Survey of California and other Indian Languages
 - <http://cla.berkeley.edu/>
 - UNESCO
 - <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/motherlanguageday>
 - 'Languages without borders' on the occasion of International Mother Language Day February 21, 2020.
 - Endangered Languages Project
 - <http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/>

xtyozen yuad •
xquixepe' laatu •

thank you