

## Languages in Myanmar

---

Invest Myanmar, 15/03/2013

---

### **The Primary language (Burmese)**

---

Many different languages are used in Myanmar (Burma), as it has over 100 ethnic groups in different regions but the primary language is Burmese which is also the official language and more than 90 percent of the population can speak. Only a few people are still using their own ethnic language although they can speak Burmese.

---

### **The Second language (English)**

---

English language, it plays in an important role in Myanmar through the history especially in Yangon (Rangoon) as it is the major commercial city in 18 century and early 19 century in South East Asia. English was a primary language in higher education from the late 19 centuries to 1964. But still, all the students have to start learning English as a second language since in the kindergarten and the high school students from grade 10 and grade 11 have to learn in English nearly all the subjects.

Today, it is very noticeable that many English languages teaching centres are emerging in Yangon (the formal capital city) and other major cities in Myanmar. Most of the people from Yangon are able to speak at least Basic English especially young people.

---

### **Other Languages**

---

Chinese and Hindi languages are also used in Myanmar but very few people speak. The language guides who speak French, German and Japanese and other languages are also available in Yangon.