IMMIGRATION AND FIRST LANGUAGE OTHER THEN ENGLISH

Immigrants are faced with economic and cultural adjustments when they arrive in the United States. Learning English is a major task that faces them. On average, it takes immigrants six years to be able to accomplish most of the normal English language communication tasks required of them.
Source: National Center for ESL Literacy

The population of people seeking ESL services is growing faster than any other sector of the adult education and literacy system, and the average wait tends to be considerably longer than for either adult basic or adult secondary education programs.
Source: N. Fitzgerald, ESL Instruction in Adult Education: Findings from a National Evaluation

Legal immigration grew by approximately 5% from 2007. 1,107,126 legal immigrants entered the U.S. in FY 2008.

Nationally, people living in the US that are foreign born dropped from 12.6% to 12.5%.

47.4% of immigrants planned to live in three states-California (21.5%), New York (13%) and Florida (12.1%).
Source: Washington Post "Number of Foreign-Born U.S. Residents Drops" By Carol Morello and Dan Keating

Seven point nine percent of new immigrants to the U.S. live in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach area of Florida
Source: 2006 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics

Florida's population growth over the last quarter century has dramatically shifted the demographics of the state, regarding both ethnicity and age.

Foreign immigration and interstate in-migration (people moving to Florida from other states) have been the drivers of growth in Florida.

Among all states, Florida has the highest net in migration from other states.

18.5% of people in Florida are foreign born.
Source: USA Today: "Immigrant population dipped last year, Census says" Jack Gillum in Tucson-- Sep. 22, 2009

Florida has seen a huge increase in immigrant populations from all over the world in 2009, even with the drop in immigrant populations across of America:

- Middle East populations have increased by +50,000
- China, Vietnam, and South Korean by +70,000
- India by +70,000
- Philippines by +70,000
- Caribbean by +100,000
- Central America by +100,000

Source: "Remade America: The Newest Immigrants and Their Impact" New York Times: Sunday, March 15, 2009

States That Provide Language Instruction

Type of instruction	Number of states
Content-based ELS	43
Pull-out ELS	42
Sheltered English instruction	39
Structured English immersion	32
Dual language	31
Transitional bilingual	28
Two-way immersion	23
Specially designed academic instruction in English	18
Heritage language	16
Developmental bilingual	15
Other	29

Source: Education Week: Maxwell, Lesli A."Immigration Transforms Communities" 2009

ELL percentage growth for Florida is up between 101 to 200%
Source: Education Week: Maxwell, Lesli A."Immigration Transforms Communities" 2009

Florida is projected to rank 3rd among all states in the number of arriving foreign immigrants during the next quarter century. The projected gain for Florida by 2025 is 1.9 million.
Source: Change, and Response to Change in Florida's Public Schools, April 2005.

Of all states, Florida had the third largest influx of immigrants in FY 2008, gaining 133,445 permanent legal residents. 87,787 moved to the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach area (#3 National Ranking), 17,409 to the Orlando-Kissimmee area (#14 National Ranking), 13,544 to the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area (#20 National Ranking), 3,878 to Jacksonville (#41 National Ranking), and 3,413 to the Naples-Marco Island area (#49 National Ranking).
Source: 2006 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics

The top birth countries for the immigrants who became permanent legal residents in Florida in FY 2005:
Cuba-30,624; Colombia-9,821; Haiti-7,378; Venezuela-6,182; Jamaica-5,270.
Source: 2005 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics

One in six Floridians were born in another country, far more than the national average of one in 10. Nearly 2.5 million Floridians speak Spanish at home, an increase of 71% since 1990.
Source: Census illustrates disparities, by Alicia Caldwell, Matthew Waite and Constance Humburg, St. Petersburg Times, May 24, 2002. www.sptimes.com/2002/05/24/State/Census_illustrates_di.shtml

It is estimated that Florida had 800,000-950,000 unauthorized migrants out of the estimated 11.1 million in the U.S. in March 2005.
Source: Pew Hispanic Center, Estimates of the Unauthorized Migrant Population for States based on the March 2005 Current Population Survey, 200

Fifty seven percent of Latinos believe that immigrants have to speak English to be a part of American society while 41% say that they do not. Fifty seven percent of Latino immigrants say that immigrants have to learn English, as compare to 52% of native-born Latinos. The view that immigrants have to learn English is held by a majority of Latinos regardless of how much money they make or their level of education.
Source: Pew Hispanic Center/Kaiser Family Foundation 2004 National Survey of Latinos: Politics and Civic Engagement, 2004

ABE, ESL, and ASE Class numbers by Ethnicity and Level

Entering Educational Level	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian	Black or African	Hispanic	White	Total
ABE Beginning Literacy	77	145	4,520	2,829	1,973	9,734
ABE Intermediate (High and Low)	364	888	25,390	13,287	28,136	69,851
ASE (High and Low)	173	422	8,121	6,496	28,136	33,098
ESL Beginning literacy	8	899	5,146	18,920	1,333	26,524
ESL Intermediate	16	1,817	6,122	31,300	3,445	43,111
ESL Advanced	5	643	892	8,300	1,464	11,464

Source: Measures and Methods for the National Reporting for Adult Education 2007-08

County	Total population	Hispanic population	As a percentage of total	2030 Total
Florida	18,328,340	3,845,069	19.1	6,637,022
Alachua	241,364	17,891	7.2	31,847
Baker	26,164	634	2.2	1,056
Bay	163,946	6,004	3.2	10,926
Bradford	29,012	874	2.7	1,212
Brevard	536,521	38,694	5.8	65,611
Broward	1,751,234	420,293	19.7	727,302
Calhoun	13,617	607	4.2	888
Charlotte	150,060	8,332	3.9	12,735
Citrus	141,416	6,201	3.3	9,481
Clay	184,727	13,213	5.3	21,191
Collier	315,258	80,322	23.5	183,913
Columbia	69,092	2,867	3.3	4,106
DeSoto	33,991	11,747	29.0	25,586
Dixie	14,497	415	2.3	804
Duval	850,962	53,453	5.4	103,544
Escambia	302,939	11,070	3.0	17,203
Flagler	91,247	7,582	5.6	11,661
Franklin	11,202	256	1.9	540
Gadsden	47,560	4,276	8.3	8,192
Gilchrist	17,191	619	3.3	1,175
Glades	11,175	1,914	17.6	3,607
Gulf	15,667	591	3.7	1,039
Hamilton	14,348	1,313	9.5	2,672
Hardee	28,888	12,255	36.1	15,714
Hendry	39,453	18,899	42.5	31,720
Hernando	171,689	15,737	6.6	24,067
Highlands	100,011	16,593	15.1	30,851
Hillsborough	1,180,784	269,497	21.1	485,609
Holmes	19,328	507	2.1	594
Indian River	132,315	13,591	8.8	28,254
Jackson	49,656	1,802	3.2	1,877
Jefferson	14,547	515	4.5	1,291
Lafayette	8,013	995	9.1	1,064
Lake	307,243	32,237	8.3	62,457
Lee	593,136	103,610	13.9	209,492
Leon	264,063	12,061	4.0	18,397
Levy	39,460	2,270	5.1	4,763
Liberty	7,957	497	5.5	595
Madison	18,895	892	4.0	1,434
Manatee	315,766	42,635	12.6	94,241

Marion	329,628	31,727	8.1	63,650
Martin	138,660	14,482	9.0	27,172
Miami-Dade	2,398,245	1,496,595	60.8	2,245,857
Monroe	72,243	13,637	18.5	23,088
Nassau	69,835	1,987	1.9	2,851
Okaloosa	179,693	10,725	5.2	19,931
Okeechobee	40,359	9,373	21.4	13,977
Orange	1,072,801	266,564	23.1	564,612
Osceola	263,676	110,119	38.3	246,159
Palm Beach	1,265,293	225,847	14.9	401,668
Pasco	471,028	49,619	7.6	77,189
Pinellas	910,260	65,432	5.9	112,362
Polk	580,594	94,144	13.0	170,101
Putnam	73,459	6,099	7.9	12,630
St. Johns	157,278	4,837	3.1	11,407
St. Lucie	240,039	27,412	11.4	73,217
Santa Rosa	150,053	6,124	3.3	11,617
Sarasota	372,057	26,907	5.8	50,561
Seminole	410,854	64,182	13.8	123,809
Sumter	74,721	6,074	8.9	16,062
Suwannee	39,802	3,304	6.4	6,045
Taylor	21,546	552	1.8	564
Union	15,141	660	4.3	825
Volusia	498,036	53,158	8.5	93,467
Wakulla	31,089	962	2.8	2,132
Walton	53,837	2,035	3.6	6,011
Washington	23,928	811	2.8	1,347

Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Population Program, Florida Population Studies, June 2006, Volume 39, Bulletin No. 145
\US Census: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/official_estimates_2008.html

TABLE FOR PLACE OF BIRTH, LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME AND ENGLISH PROFICINCY

County	Total population	Native Born	Foreign Born	Speaks English only	Speaks Spanish at home	Speaks English less then "very well" by Language group			
						Spanish Language	Other Indo-European Languages	Asian and Pacific Islander Languages	Other Languages
Florida	18,328,340	14,937,598	3,390,742	12,141,842	3,012,931	1,430,964	304,766	95,410	25,929
Alachua	241,364	189,362	20,961	174,019	11,536	3,920	1,122	2,535	65
Baker	26,164	22,009	250	19,868	532	194	28	39	50
Bay	163,946	150,280	7,861	137,724	4,177	2,133	1,537	1,329	243
Bradford	29,012	25,629	459	23,545	666	198	78	61	50
Brevard	536,521	479,080	42,146	451,101	22,157	11,245	3,008	1,588	2,817
Broward	1,751,234	1,233,644	523,946	1,081,240	345,794	138,100	71,895	12,303	3,954
Calhoun	13,617	12,731	286	11,581	487	166	24	15	29
Charlotte	150,060	140,774	13,942	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Citrus	132,209	124,020	8,189	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Clay	169,528	160,815	8,713	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Collier	302,514	236,516	65,998	202,469	60,939	31,614	6,155	924	379
Columbia	56,513	55,197	1,316	50,221	1,640	707	164	110	78
DeSoto	32,209	26,172	6,037	23,008	6,693	4,511	173	16	0
Dixie	13,827	13,545	282	12,502	282	93	85	5	0
Duval	810,698	749,098	61,600	667,432	34,468	13,605	7,428	7,471	1,169
Escambia	274,663	264,688	9,975	237,999	6,123	2,655	896	2,258	0
Flagler	75,757	66,366	9,391	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gadsden	45,087	43,239	1,848	38,946	2,644	1,399	57	36	0
Gilchrist	14,437	14,186	251	13,037	325	85	68	0	0
Glades	10,576	9,737	839	8,088	1,457	612	40	12	0
Gulf	13,332	13,057	275	12,156	330	114	40	23	0
Hamilton	13,327	13,027	300	11,758	738	254	22	10	0
Hardee	26,938	22,236	4,702	16,876	7,699	4,089	44	24	0
Hendry	36,210	27,510	8,700	20,666	11,896	7,008	125	46	0
Hernando	156,325	146,441	9,884	137,183	8,327	3,989	1,242	314	60
Highlands	94,177	83,933	10,244	74,441	12,453	7,693	525	352	82
Hillsborough	1,111,717	957,162	154,555	789,304	188,351	76,617	5,773	8,503	2,030
Holmes	18,564	18,244	320	16,735	402	139	76	30	0
Indian River	126,258	113,714	12,544	107,014	8,811	5,325	641	277	55
Jackson	46,755	46,049	449	42,316	1,279	430	95	41	0
Jefferson	12,902	12,743	159	11,867	274	120	24	35	0
Lafayette	7,022	6,556	466	5,869	654	411	14	2	0
Lake	273,277	251,808	244,746	230,706	20,780	10,150	1,057	853	123
Lee	539,097	467,416	71,681	414,925	65,130	23,420	9,274	1,231	494
Leon	233,649	220,909	12,740	201,860	7,160	2,891	703	1,381	143
Levy	34,450	33,556	894	30,528	1,488	676	65	13	0
Liberty	7,021	6,875	146	6,278	306	145	0	0	0
Madison	18,733	18,361	372	16,794	614	282	14	50	0
Manatee	300,828	268,622	32,206	241,384	27,001	13,727	3,852	1,749	504

Marion	295,555	280,413	15,142	256,388	18,832	7,930	953	516	0
Martin	136,138	123,935	12,203	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Miami-Dade	2,329,187	1,158,590	1,170,597	623,701	1,341,991	670,747	63,197	6,155	6,155
Monroe	75,074	61,746	13,328	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nassau	57,663	56,122	1,541	52,061	1,135	327	83	112	0
Okaloosa	177,284	165,395	11,889	149,039	7,817	2,853	1,048	1,954	0
Okeechobee	35,910	31,779	4,131	27,112	5,786	3,061	153	29	0
Orange	1,002,849	818,823	184,026	648,500	648,500	88,184	19,418	13,391	2,310
Osceola	229,134	180,252	48,882	117,772	76,959	34,627	6,593	1,019	665
Palm Beach	1,247,908	992,822	255,086	874,013	177,633	93,321	45,011	7,040	4,360
Pasco	423,356	390,506	32,850	354,209	27,526	10,348	3,524	1,376	462
Pinellas	905,158	807,599	97,559	744,614	49,940	18,447	13,870	8,002	1,281
Polk	530,126	480,472	49,654	413,718	61,112	30,056	4,740	2,416	370
Putnam	72,148	68,551	3,597	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
St. Johns	159,235	149,570	9,665	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
St. Lucie	238,575	204,288	34,287	185,527	23,937	12,606	4,513	405	64
Santa Rosa	140,650	135,174	5,476	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sarasota	359,783	314,912	44,871	294,936	20,665	10,596	8,630	1,539	395
Seminole	398,013	350,067	47,946	311,735	40,637	16,107	3,510	3,067	328
Sumter	53,345	50,407	2,938	46,576	3,399	1,409	225	107	0
Suwannee	34,844	33,213	1,631	30,392	1,965	1,106	132	29	0
Taylor	19,256	18,937	319	17,329	484	124	42	23	0
Union	13,442	13,158	284	11,830	629	207	48	6	0
Volusia	475,189	442,709	32,480	398,251	34,826	12,276	2,969	616	587
Wakulla	22,863	22,529	334	20,576	652	160	14	60	0
Walton	40,601	39,289	1,312	36,490	1,016	408	164	74	0
Washington	20,973	20,453	520	18,626	587	228	209	79	0

All of these numbers are estimates and do not include the margin of error

Source: US Census website, 2005 Update

2000 CENSUS MEASURE OF ENGLISH PROFICIANCY

County	Population	Speak English	"Very Well"	Speak English	"Well"	Speak English	"Not Well"	Speak English	"Not at All"
Florida	15,043,603	1,918,999	12.80%	712,799	4.70%	550,678	3.70%	291,388	1.90%
Alachua	206,860	17,450	8.40%	4,292	2.10%	1,842	0.90%	227	0.10%
Baker	20,670	541	2.60%	161	0.80%	72	0.30%	28	0.10%
Bay	139,213	5,969	4.30%	1,734	1.20%	1,134	0.80%	88	0.10%
Bradford	24,690	799	3.20%	212	0.90%	97	0.40%	37	0.10%
Brevard	451,553	27,582	6.10%	7,463	1.70%	3,748	0.80%	658	0.10%
Broward	1,520,842	264,476	17.40%	95,561	6.30%	59,953	3.90%	17,811	1.20%
Calhoun	12,264	469	3.80%	114	0.90%	65	0.50%	35	0.30%
Charlotte	136,659	7,927	5.80%	2,089	1.50%	1,095	0.80%	148	0.10%
Citrus	113.648	4,805	4.20%	1,712	1.50%	794	0.70%	184	0.20%
Clay	131,720	7,446	5.70%	1,777	1.30%	829	0.60%	128	0.10%
Collier	238,077	26,907	11.30%	12,761	5.40%	12,354	5.20%	7,642	3.20%
Columbia	52,904	1,692	3.20%	589	1.10%	347	0.70%	55	0.10%
DeSoto	30,331	2,604	8.60%	1,030	3.40%	1,470	4.80%	2,219	7.30%
Dixie	13,080	374	2.90%	132	1.00%	58	0.40%	14	0.10%
Duval	723,198	44,261	6.10%	14,191	2.00%	8,478	1.20%	1,443	0.20%
Escambia	276,629	12,725	4.60%	3,515	1.30%	2,214	0.80%	379	0.10%
Flagler	47,707	3,623	7.60%	1,273	2.70%	405	0.80%	379	0.10%
Franklin	10,551	388	3.70%	138	1.30%	10	0.10%	0	0.00%
Gadsden	42,047	1,590	3.80%	512	1.20%	692	1.60%	307	0.70%
Gilchrest	13,615	425	3.10%	65	0.50%	85	0.60%	3	0.00%
Glades	9,966	1,172	11.80%	283	2.80%	275	2.80%	148	1.50%
Gulf	12,723	383	3.00%	131	1.00%	52	0.40%	1	0.00%
Hamilton	12,564	520	4.10%	141	1.10%	89	0.70%	56	0.40%
Hardee	24,870	3,798	15.30%	1,391	5.60%	1,543	6.20%	1,262	5.10%
Hendry	33,340	5,286	15.90%	2,159	6.50%	2,434	7.30%	2,795	8.40%
Hernando	124,914	7,825	6.30%	2,463	2.00%	1,218	1.00%	146	0.10%
Highlands	82,787	5,845	7.10%	2,571	3.10%	1,648	2.00%	1,426	1.70%
Hillsborough	931,276	113,230	12.20%	39,227	4.20%	28,250	3.00%	13,819	1.50%
Holmes	17,531	537	3.10%	154	0.90%	75	0.40%	30	0.20%
Indian River	107,745	6,496	6.00%	2,307	2.10%	1,595	1.50%	849	0.80%
Jackson	44,253	1,323	3.00%	436	1.00%	128	0.30%	50	0.10%
Jefferson	12,244	198	1.60%	105	0.90%	67	0.50%	7	0.10%
Lafayette	6,620	324	4.90%	149	2.30%	125	1.90%	153	2.30%
Lake	199,560	10,922	5.50%	2,875	1.40%	2,194	1.10%	845	0.40%
Lee	417,783	32,151	7.70%	10,843	2.60%	9,080	2.20%	4,501	1.10%
Leon	225,718	12,706	5.60%	2,791	1.20%	1,444	0.60%	207	0.10%
Levy	32,501	1,204	3.70%	309	1.00%	403	1.20%	57	0.20%
Liberty	6,641	218	3.30%	66	1.00%	56	0.80%	23	0.30%
Madison	17,646	506	2.90%	141	0.80%	140	0.80%	65	0.40%
Manatee	249,004	17,085	6.90%	6,459	2.60%	4,552	1.80%	2,427	1.00%
Marion	245,837	13,898	5.70%	4,123	1.70%	2,830	1.20%	812	0.30%
Martin	121,277	7,353	6.10%	2,898	2.40%	2,132	1.80%	2,427	1.00%
Miami-Dade	2,108,512	700,351	33.20%	285,783	13.60%	261,782	12.40%	184,249	8.70%
Monroe	76,301	10,000	13.10%	2,777	3.60%	2,566	3.40%	994	1.30%

Nassau	54,148	1,549	2.90%	299	0.60%	167	0.30%	72	0.10%
Okaloosa	159,735	8,470	5.30%	2,451	1.50%	1,516	0.90%	160	0.10%
Okeechobee	33,568	3,198	9.50%	1,145	3.40%	1,311	3.90%	802	2.40%
Orange	835,287	125,021	15.00%	47,230	5.70%	30,937	3.70%	9,102	1.10%
Osceola	161,025	30,739	19.10%	12,514	7.80%	7,938	4.90%	2,437	1.50%
Palm Beach	1,069,257	128,367	12.00%	51,028	4.80%	37,764	3.50%	15,032	1.40%
Pasco	326,884	21,943	6.70%	6,654	2.00%	3,903	1.20%	1,090	0.30%
Pinellas	876,588	65,509	7.50%	22,208	2.50%	13,968	1.60%	3,177	0.40%
Polk	453,180	30,300	6.70%	6,654	2.00%	3,903	1.20%	1,090	0.30%
Putnam	66,043	2,545	3.90%	1,078	1.60%	863	1.30%	304	0.50%
St. Johns	116,709	5,866	5.00%	1,217	1.00%	581	0.50%	175	0.10%
St. Lucie	182,029	14,210	7.80%	5,277	2.90%	3,792	2.10%	1,809	1.00%
Santa Rosa	109,975	4,174	3.80%	1,062	1.00%	550	0.50%	57	0.10%
Sarasota	313,327	19,776	6.30%	7,341	2.30%	4,388	1.40%	1,482	0.50%
Seminole	341,949	35,675	10.40%	9,924	2.90%	6,262	1.80%	1,442	0.40%
Sumter	51,222	2,840	5.50%	1,165	2.30%	508	1.00%	133	0.30%
Suwannee	32,789	1,110	3.40%	310	0.90%	557	1.70%	420	1.30%
Taylor	18,111	593	3.30%	105	0.60%	84	0.50%	0	0.00%
Union	12,707	607	4.80%	113	0.90%	106	0.80%	51	0.40%
Volusia	421,553	28,605	6.80%	9,959	2.40%	5,351	1.30%	1,493	0.40%
Wakulla	21,496	670	3.10%	80	0.40%	122	0.60%	48	0.20%
Walton	38,441	1,288	3.40%	329	0.90%	291	0.80%	43	0.10%
Washington	19,709	560	2.80%	289	1.50%	178	0.90%	56	0.30%

SOURCE: U.S. Census 2000

NAAL DATA

The 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL) measures the English literacy of America's adults (people age 16 and older living in households or prisons).

Forty four percent of adults with Below Basic prose literacy did not speak English before starting school, compared to 13 percent in the general population.

Thirty nine percent of Hispanic adults had Below Basic prose literacy, compared to 12 percent in the general population.

The average prose scores of Asians/Pacific Islanders rose 16 points between 1992 and 2003. The average prose literacy scores of Hispanics fell 18 points from 1992-2003, while average document literacy scores decreased by 14 points.

For 2003, 5% of the general population (11 million) could not communicate in English or Spanish.
Hispanics account for 39% of adults with *Below Basic* prose literacy. 35% of adults with *Below Basic* prose literacy spoke Spanish or Spanish and another non-English language before starting school.
Source: National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL): A First Look at the Literacy of America's Adults in the 21st Century (2006)

Over 1.5 million of Florida's residents speak little or no English, making it difficult to access information that can assist them in everyday survival skills such as obtaining a driver's license, filling out a tax return, or knowing where to locate specific social services and recreational opportunities.
Source: Florida Department of Education, Adult General Education Information, Sept.2000
Florida has seen long-term growth in both the number and percentage of K-12 Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students, although the trend appears to have peaked in 2001-02. Florida's LEP program enrollment has increased from 5.4 percent of the student population in 1993-1994 to 7.5 percent of the student population in 2003-04. During this period, LEP membership increased from 114,671 to 196,003, representing a growth of 70.9 percent.
Source: Change, and Response to Change in Florida's Public Schools, April 2005

During the 2004-2005 school year, Miami-Dade school district ranked 4th in the nation of the largest number of ELL students enrolled (62,767 LEP enrollment, 17% ELL of the total enrollment), Broward Country school district ranked tenth (29,909 LEP enrollment, 11% ELL of total enrollment), Palm Beach school district ranked sixteenth (20,326 LEP enrollment, 12% ELL of total enrollment), Hillsborough school district ranked seventeenth (18,129 LEP enrollment, 10% ELL of total enrollment), and Orange County school district ranked twenty eighth (11,578 LEP enrollment, 7% ELL of total enrollment).

Spanish was the language most frequently spoken at home by both those who spoke a language other than English at home and by those who spoke English with difficulty.
Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition and Language Instruction Education Programs, Frequently Asked Questions at www.ncela.gwu.edu/expert/faq/.htm

Adults with limited literacy proficiencies are less likely to take the steps needed to improve their awareness and knowledge of civic and political issues, are less likely to take part in civic and community activities including volunteering, and are less likely to vote in local, state, and national elections.
Source: The Twin Challenges of Mediocrity and Inequality: Literacy in the U.S. from an International Perspective; February 2002; Educational Testing Service

About 1.5 million Latinos are eligible to vote in Florida, representing approximately 14% of the more than 11 million eligible voters in the state in 2003. Of those, 540,000 (36%) are of Cuban origins, 480,000 (32%) are of Puerto Rican origins, and 315,000 (21%) trace their origins to Central and South America. About 60% of Florida's Hispanic voters live in just three counties: Miami-Dade (590,000 or 39% of the Latino electorate), Orange (166,000 or 11%) and Broward (165,000 or 11%).
Source: Pew Hispanic Center Fact Sheet: The Hispanic Electorate in Florida (Data extracted from the monthly Current Population Survey(s) conducted in 2003 by the U.S. Bureau of the Census)