

## 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 13% from FY 2005-2006. 1,266,264 legal immigrants entered the U.S. in FY 2006.

Forty-seven point four percent planned to live in three states-California (20.9%), New York (14.2%) and Florida (12.3%).

Seven point eight 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.

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 2006, gaining 155,996 permanent legal residents. 98,922 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](http://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, 2006.

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

### **HISPANIC ORIGIN POPULATION: ESTIMATES IN THE STATE AND COUNTIES OF FLORIDA APRIL 1, 2005, 2010 AND 2030**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total population</b>	<b>Hispanic population</b>	<b>As a percentage of total</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2030</b>
				<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Florida</b>	17,918,227	3,425,417	19.1	4,159,161	6,637,022
Alachua	240,764	17,299	7.2	20,676	31,847
Baker	23,953	537	2.2	650	1,056
Bay	161,721	5,146	3.2	6,435	10,926
Bradford	28,118	770	2.7	872	1,212
Brevard	531,970	30,968	5.8	38,706	65,611
Broward	1,740,987	343,739	19.7	426,375	727,302
Calhoun	13,945	579	4.2	647	888
Charlotte	154,030	5,954	3.9	7,484	12,735
Citrus	132,635	4,355	3.3	5,462	9,481
Clay	169,623	8,913	5.3	11,773	21,191
Collier	317,788	74,557	23.5	98,426	183,913
Columbia	61,466	2,008	3.3	2,542	4,106
DeSoto	32,606	9,456	29.0	13,064	25,586
Dixie	15,377	356	2.3	456	804
Duval	861,150	46,627	5.4	59,451	103,544
Escambia	303,623	9,118	3.0	10,971	17,203
Flagler	78,617	4,396	5.6	6,073	11,661
Franklin	10,845	209	1.9	353	540
Gadsden	47,713	3,947	8.3	4,897	8,192
Gilchrist	16,221	531	3.3	677	1,175
Glades	10,729	1,892	17.6	2,279	3,607
Gulf	16,479	606	3.7	707	1,039
Hamilton	14,315	1,360	9.5	1,650	2,672
Hardee	27,333	9,880	36.1	11,256	15,714
Hendry	38,376	16,303	42.5	19,884	31,720
Hernando	150,784	10,021	6.6	13,034	24,067
Highlands	93,456	14,139	15.1	17,738	30,851
Hillsborough	1,131,546	238,335	21.1	295,979	485,609

Holmes	19,157	397	2.1	443	594
Indian River	130,043	11,482	8.8	15,372	28,254
Jackson	49,691	1,567	3.2	1,778	1,877
Jefferson	14,233	635	4.5	786	1,291
Lafayette	7,971	728	9.1	813	1,064
Lake	263,017	21,844	8.3	30,915	62,457
Lee	549,442	76,156	13.9	106,179	209,492
Leon	271,111	10,966	4.0	12,645	18,397
Levy	37,985	1,945	5.1	2,519	4,763
Liberty	7,581	417	5.5	466	595
Madison	19,696	797	4.0	938	1,434
Manatee	304,364	38,400	12.6	50,999	94,241
Marion	304,926	24,678	8.1	33,323	63,650
Martin	141,059	12,726	9.0	15,912	27,172
Miami-Dade	2,422,075	1,473,412	60.8	1,656,007	2,245,857
Monroe	82,413	15,236	18.5	17,069	23,088
Nassau	65,759	1,232	1.9	1,584	2,851
Okaloosa	188,939	9,810	5.2	12,155	19,931
Okeechobee	37,765	8,065	21.4	9,392	13,977
Orange	1,043,437	240,878	23.1	316,692	564,612
Osceola	235,156	90,012	38.3	126,554	246,159
Palm Beach	1,265,900	188,375	14.9	236,464	401,668
Pasco	406,898	31,021	7.6	41,325	77,189
Pinellas	947,744	56,032	5.9	67,709	112,362
Polk	541,840	70,456	13.0	93,167	170,101
Putnam	73,764	5,807	7.9	7,286	12,630
St. Johns	157,278	4,837	3.1	6,313	11,407
St. Lucie	240,039	27,412	11.4	37,790	73,217
Santa Rosa	136,443	4,570	3.3	6,169	11,617
Sarasota	367,867	21,238	5.8	27,969	50,561
Seminole	411,744	56,723	13.8	72,009	123,809
Sumter	74,052	6,577	8.9	8,725	16,062
Suwannee	38,174	2,457	6.4	3,230	6,045
Taylor	21,310	383	1.8	442	564
Union	15,046	641	4.3	708	825
Volusia	494,649	42,157	8.5	53,753	93,467
Wakulla	26,867	755	2.8	1,228	2,132
Walton	53,525	1,953	3.6	2,882	6,011
Washington	23,097	639	2.8	934	1,347

**Source:** University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Population Program, Florida Population Studies, June 2006, Volume 39, Bulletin No. 145.

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

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	17,382,511	14,169,556	3,212,955	12,141,842	3,012,931	1,430,964	304,766	95,410	25,929
Alachua	210,323	189,362	20,961	174,019	11,536	3,920	1,122	2,535	65
Baker	22,259	22,009	250	19,868	532	194	28	39	50
Bay	158,141	150,280	7,861	137,724	4,177	2,133	1,537	1,329	243
Bradford	26,088	25,629	459	23,545	666	198	78	61	50
Brevard	521,226	479,080	42,146	451,101	22,157	11,245	3,008	1,588	2,817
Broward	1,757,590	1,233,644	523,946	1,081,240	345,794	138,100	71,895	12,303	3,954
Calhoun	13,017	12,731	286	11,581	487	166	24	15	29
Charlotte	154,716	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 PROFICIENCY**

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 County 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.ncele.gwu.edu/expert/faq/.htm](http://www.ncele.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).

## **LITERACY AND MIGRANT FARM WORKERS**

Mobility affects every aspect of the lives and learning of migrant farm workers and their families. Although migrants bring few belongings as they travel from crop to crop and from labor camp to labor camp, they do bring a wealth of experience, motivation, and resourcefulness. Effective migrant camp literacy programs must be sensitive to the particular education challenges facing migrant farmworkers, and at the same time foster and build on their strengths.

Migrant farmworkers follow the crops across the country, returning to home state or home countries for the winter harvest season. Because migrants move continually and are often undocumented, the migrant population is difficult to count. Most migrants are Latinos; of these, most are from Mexico, while others are from Central America and Puerto Rico. They come to the U.S. for a variety of economic and political reasons. Many are not literate in their native language, which is usually Spanish.

**SOURCE:** Bartlett, Karen J. & Vargas, Flavio O., Literacy Education for Adult Migrant Farmworkers, ERIC Digest, National Clearinghouse on Literacy Education, Washington, D.C., 1991.

The majority of the migrant workers in Florida arrive in September or October and leave in May or June. A 1998 study entitled, *Farmworkers in Southwest Florida*, found that the typical farm worker is male, between 20-40 years old, of Mexican origin and has five to six years of formal education. It is estimated that 37% of the farm workers live with their families and earn about \$7,000 annually.

**SOURCE:** Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

There are 200,000-280,000 farmworkers and dependents in Florida. 60% migrate, 66% live in poverty, 60-75% are undocumented.

**SOURCE:** Larson's Enumeration Profiles, 2000: Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, in Sologaitoa, Erin Kay, *The Health of Farmworker Women in Florida*, 2006.

The following counties have the largest farmworker populations: Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, Collier, Hendry, Manatee, Orange, Polk, Highlands, DeSoto, Hardee, and Lake. These counties combined contain 2/3 of the state's farmworkers.

### **TOTAL FARMWORKERS, HOUSEHOLDS, AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS BY COUNTY, 2002**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Farmworkers</b>	<b>Total Farmworker Households</b>	<b>Total Farmworker Household Members</b>
Alachua	1,123	998	1,626
Baker	190	150	349
Bay	2	2	3
Bradford	41	37	60
Brevard	1,006	894	1,456
Broward	1,749	1,555	2,533
Calhoun	292	259	423
Charlotte	1,475	1,310	2,135
Citrus	193	172	280
Clay	495	440	717
Collier	8,880	7,891	12,855
Columbia	361	321	523
DeSoto	4,171	3,707	6,039
Dixie	60	53	87
Duval	696	619	1,008
Escambia	275	244	398
Flagler	624	555	904
Franklin	1	1	1
Gadsden	2,340	2,080	3,388
Gilchrist	710	631	1,027
Glades	1,318	1,172	1,909
Gulf	2	2	3
Hamilton	182	162	264
Hardee	3,728	3,313	5,397
Hendry	7,983	7,094	11,556
Hernando	319	284	462
Highlands	5,378	4,779	7,786

Hillsborough	8,950	7,953	12,956
Holmes	74	66	107
Indian River	2,950	2,622	4,271
Jackson	601	534	871
Jefferson	421	374	609
Lafayette	423	376	613
Lake	3,525	3,133	5,103
Lee	2,892	2,570	4,187
Leon	166	147	240
Levy	1,200	1,066	1,737
Liberty	2	2	3
Madison	226	201	327
Manatee	7,069	6,282	10,233
Marion	3,184	2,830	4,610
Martin	2,642	2,348	3,825
Miami-Dade	15,090	13,410	21,845
Monroe	68	60	99
Nassau	145	129	209
Okaloosa	61	55	89
Okeechobee	2,315	2,057	3,351
Orange	6,564	5,833	9,502
Osceola	1,598	1,420	2,313
Palm Beach	12,592	11,190	18,229
Pasco	1,442	1,281	2,087
Pinellas	284	252	410
Polk	5,876	5,221	8,506
Putnam	841	748	1,218
St Johns	1,273	1,131	1,843
St Lucie	2,899	2,576	4,197
Santa Rosa	220	196	319
Sarasota	365	324	528
Seminole	372	331	539
Sumter	557	495	806
Suwannee	1,020	907	1,477
Taylor	22	20	32
Union	140	124	202
Volusia	2,872	2,552	4,158
Wakulla	17	15	24
Walton	189	168	274
Washington	90	80	131
<b>State of Florida Total</b>	<b>135,001</b>	<b>119,970</b>	<b>195,432</b>

**SOURCE:** Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, University of Florida, the Need for Farmworker Housing in Florida, 2004.