Immigration and Language

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Points of Departure

• No growth in native labor force
• Baby boom retirement
• Global competition
• Recession
• Integration: skeletal national policy
Language vs. Integration Policy

- Language access
- Language acquisition
  - PreK – 12 education competition
  - Workforce
- Data systems
Foreign Born Rose to 38 Million (12.6% of US Population) in 2007

Source: US Census Bureau data; Analyses by the Migration Policy Institute and the Urban Institute.
Children of Immigrants (Age 15) In the OECD PISA Data

Almost Half of All Metro Areas with 1 Million+ Immigrants Are in the US

Source: MPI Data Hub, March 2006.
Immigrants are ...

- 1 in 8 US residents
- 1 in 2 new workers in 1990s

Children of immigrants...

- 23% of all children in US
- 30% of all low-income children
- 75% are US citizens
Immigrants are:

- 13% of US residents
- 16% of US workers
- 21% of low-wage workers*
- 48% of low-skilled workers**

* Low-wage workers (ages 18 to 64) earned less than twice the federal minimum wage in 2007.
**Low-skilled workers (25 and older) are those with less than a high school education.

Highly Skilled Immigrants in US Workforce,* 2005-2006

• 1 in 4 doctors
• 2 in 5 medical scientists
• 1 in 3 computer software engineers
• 1 in 5 computer programmers
• 1 in 5 postsecondary teachers

. . . . are immigrants

Notes: *Refers to persons in the civilian labor force, ages 25 and older.
Source: American Community Survey (pooled 2005-2006).
The foreign-born population has declined from a peak of almost 38 million, to less than 37 million.

Note: Three month moving average.
ELL Students in US Schools

States with 100,000 or more ELL students (2005)
States with more than 200% ELL growth (1995 to 2005)

Source: Office of English Language Acquisition, November 2006.
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39.9 million* foreign born in March 2008

* Includes estimate of undercounted immigrants

Three Quarters of Children in Unauthorized Families Are Citizens

There are 5.5 million children with unauthorized parents:

• Their children make up 6.8% of all US schoolchildren.

• 73 percent (4 million) of all children of unauthorized parents are US citizens.

• 17 percent (1.5 million) are unauthorized.

Almost Half of All Immigrant Workers Are Limited English Proficient

Percent of full-time immigrant workers (age 25 and over) who are LEP:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All foreign born</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 to 2005</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 to 1999</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981 to 1990</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980 or earlier</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: American Community Survey 2005. Limited English proficient (LEP) are persons reporting speaking English less than “very well” to the Census survey.
1-in-5 College-Educated Immigrant Workers in Unskilled Occupations

Percent of college-educated workers in unskilled occupations

- **Recent immigrants (arrived in 1996 or later)**
- **Long-term immigrants (arrived prior to 1996)**
- **US born**

US born: 18% 19% 17%
Europe*: 19% 17%
Latin America: 44% 35%
Asia: 20% 23%
Africa: 33% 22%

Notes: *Refers to persons from Europe, Canada, and Oceania. Unskilled occupations require no more than modest on-the-job training (e.g., construction laborers, drivers, and maids).

Notes: There were 5.1 million limited English proficient school children in 2005-2006, representing 10 percent of enrolled students.
Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition & Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA), 2007.
LEP Enrollment Growth: California, 1995 to 2006

Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition & Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA), 2006.
LEP Enrollment Growth: North Carolina, 1995 to 2006

Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition & Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA), 2006
LEP Students Attend Linguistically Segregated Schools

Most LEP Children are Native Born

Notes: The figures refer to LEP students ages 5 to 18 currently enrolled in school. Source: US Census, 2000.
"Former" LEPs Do Better

Average Scores of 8th Graders in Math by English Proficiency: NAEP

First Generation Immigrant Children's Shortfall In Science Scores Relative to Natives (Age 15)

Note: A rough estimation is that 35 points is equivalent to one year of schooling.
E Pluribus Unum Prizes:

Recognizing Exceptional US Immigrant Integration Initiatives

MPI’s National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy, with the J.M. Kaplan Fund, has launched a new national awards program that will give four $50,000 awards annually to exceptional initiatives that promote immigrant integration in hopes of providing inspiration and program models to others doing similar work.

http://www.integrationawards.org
Internationals Network for Public Schools, New York, NY

Current Schools:
1. International High School at LaGuardia Community College - Queens
2. Manhattan International High School
3. Brooklyn International High School
4. Bronx International High School
5. International High School at Prospect Heights - Brooklyn
6. Flushing International High School - Queens
7. International High School at Kingsborough Community College - Brooklyn
8. International Community High School - Bronx
9. Pan American International - Queens
10. Oakland International High School - California

Source: http://www.internationalsnps.org/
Adults:
• Address wide unmet needs.
• Integrate language and skill training.
• Differentiate instruction.
• Greater attention to credentialing.

Children:
• Accountability for academic progress.
• Extended time for learning.
For More Information

Find data, reports, and other analysis by state and for the nation:

www.migrationpolicy.org

and

www.migrationinformation.org

... 2007 ACS data and new databases are coming online!

www.migrationpolicy.org/DataHub
Immigrant Populations: Largest and Fastest Growing States

- States with 1.7 million or more immigrants (2007)
- States (ranked) with more than 200% growth (1990 to 2007)

Source: 2007 American Community Survey and 1990 Decennial Census.
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# ELL Students in Ten States

## Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition & Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA), 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>ELL Enrollment</th>
<th>Percent of State's Total K-12 Enrollment</th>
<th>State Share of National ELL Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5,113,636</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>1,591,525</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>684,007</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>299,346</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>203,583</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>192,764</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>155,789</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>90,391</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>75,678</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>72,117</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>70,926</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Top 10 states</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,436,126</strong></td>
<td><strong>67.2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>67.2%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ELL Enrollment (2004-2005): Top 10 School Districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of ELLs</th>
<th>Percent ELLs*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5,113,636</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>328,684</td>
<td>44.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City, NY</td>
<td>122,840</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>82,540</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami-Dade, FL</td>
<td>62,767</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>61,319</td>
<td>29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark County, NV</td>
<td>53,517</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>51,328</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>38,629</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Ana, CA</td>
<td>36,807</td>
<td>62.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward County, FL</td>
<td>29,909</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Top 10 districts</strong></td>
<td><strong>868,340</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage of all ELLs</strong></td>
<td><strong>17.0%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percent ELLs in the district’s total K-12 enrollment.

Source: National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition & Language Instruction Educational Programs (NCELA), 2006
Generational Progress Continues – for All Groups


* Europe refers to Europe, Canada, and Australia.

English Proficiency of Adults

**PROSE LITERACY**

- **IMMIGRANTS**
  - Below basic: 46%
  - Basic: 27%
  - Intermediate: 22%
  - Proficient: 5%
  - Numbers: 13.1 million, 7.6 million, 6.2 million, 1.4 million

- **US BORN**
  - Below basic: 9%
  - Basic: 28%
  - Intermediate: 49%
  - Proficient: 14%
  - Numbers: 17.3 million, 52.2 million, 90.7 million, 26.1 million

*Source: Migration Policy Institute analysis of 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy data in Batalova and Fix (2009).*
Workforce Preparation Issues

• Adult English language acquisition
  • scale and effectiveness of English instruction programs
  • clustering of instruction at lowest levels
  • unintegrated nature of English and workforce skills programs
  • “bricks and mortar” vs. anytime-anywhere instruction

• Immigrant/LEP participation in workforce training programs

• Career pathways for LEP youth

• Recognition of foreign credentials
Key K-12 Issues

- Quality of English instruction services
  - Alignment of ELL and mainstream curricula
  - Native language instruction and testing policies
  - Use of valid and reliable assessments
  - Teacher recruitment/retention
  - Pre-service and in-service training
  - Need for additional time

- Lack of targeted federal, state, and local funding to meet immigrant/ELL needs