

Sample statistics and authentic discourse for map exercise:

Map exercise: Here are a few examples within the information provided

Disclaimer : all of this information was taken from the internet and was not verified for accuracy.

Largest ethnic communities

Los Angeles

Iranian

Korean

Filipino

Japanese

New York

Greek (Astoria, Queens)

Minneapolis

Tibetan

DID YOU KNOW?

Our nation is a mosaic of Americans representing 500 ethnic groups who communicate in

636 languages and dialects. The U.S. is a nation of many nations:

- More Swedes here than in Sweden
- More Irish here than in Ireland
- More Jews here than in Israel

Los Angeles is now the second largest Iranian city in the world. It has the largest Korean population outside of Seoul, the largest Filipino population outside Manila, the largest Japanese population outside of Japan, population in the United States.

New York City is home to more Jews than Jerusalem, more Italians than Rome, and more Puerto Ricans than San Juan. Chicago has more Poles than San Francisco has people.

Minorities comprise a majority in 25 U.S. cities.

- In California, 239 languages are spoken;
- in New York, 184;
- in Washington, 181;
- in Texas, 169.
- 42 million Americans speak little or no English.

The U.S. now has 24 million foreign-born residents, which is one of every 11 people.

International Students:

More than 400,000 international students from 181 countries study at American universities.

40,000 of communist China's future government and business leaders study at U.S. universities.

30% of international students are Muslim

Muslims:

The fastest growing religion in America is Islam.

The number of Muslims entering the U.S. has doubled in the past two decades and now constitute 14% of immigrants. They are expected to become the second largest religious group in the U.S. in less than 30 years.

Muslims will outnumber Presbyterians in the U.S. by the year 2000; they will outnumber American Jews by 2005.

Buddhists:

The total number of Buddhists in North America is between 3 and 5 million. Buddhist chaplains are recognized in the U.S. armed forces.

There are more Buddhists in the U.S. than Episcopalians.

Hindus:

In the U.S. there are more than 40 Hindu temples and more than 500 Hindu religious organizations.

More than 500,000 Hindus live in the United States, and most have arrived in the last two decades.

Native Americans:

The Navajo nation is geographically larger than 52 world countries in total square miles. It is larger than nine American states and Washington DC.

44% of the Indian population is under 20 years old.

The average Native American life expectancy is about 48 years old. Suicide and alcohol-related deaths occur at rates six times the national average. 80% of Native Americans will die of unnatural causes.

45% live below the poverty level. The poverty rate is 2.5 times higher than for all U.S. families.

On reservations, the unemployment rate ranges from 45% to a high of 81%. About 35% have less than an elementary education. About 1 in 5 American Indian households on reservations lack complete plumbing facilities in their homes

(This material came from Dee Eastman and American Horizon magazine.)

MetroCards to go - in Greek

MetroCards to go - in Greek

Astoria - which boasts the largest Greek population outside Athens - just got a little more Greek. MetroCard vending machines at five subway stations in the neighborhood now have instructions in Greek, to accommodate the neighborhood's large Greek-speaking population.

City Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria) said he had asked the Metropolitan Transportation Authority last fall to include the Greek instructions on the six machines, and after reviewing census data, the MTA complied.

He said he and a staff member "were riding the train and realized that there was no Greek language on the MetroCard machines. It's Greek to them

The MTA study determined Greek is one of the four most-spoken languages in the neighborhood, qualifying it for inclusion on the machines.

"I represent an area that has more Greeks than anywhere outside of Greece," said Vallone. "I thank the MTA for affording the same courtesy and consideration to Greek-speakers as other large non-English-speaking ethnic groups in our city receive.

Astoria has a Greek population estimated at between 20,000 and 40,000, or 13% to 25% of the community's population.

The Greek-language MetroCard machines were installed last week in the Ditmars Blvd., Astoria Blvd. and 30th Ave. stations on the N and W lines, and at the Steinway St. and 46th St. stations on the R line.

Jared Wade

Home Away From Home

As the Twin Cities' Tibetan community - the largest in America - continues to grow, so do the hopes for maintaining the culture extinguished in a homeland that younger Tibetans have never even visited.

By Paul Levy

Star Tribune Staff Writer

Thinly Woser was discussing how the Twin Cities metropolitan area has quietly become the largest concentrated center of Tibetan immigrants in North America and how that population of 400 is expected to triple within the next 18 months.

"Some people predicted this might be some paradise," said Woser, 41, a Tibetan who left India for Minneapolis in June. "I didn't think it would be paradise, but I thought it would be better than India."

As Woser paced about the two bedroom Minneapolis apartment he shares with his wife and three teenaged children, occasionally tugging at the snug-fitting T-shirt he purchased last summer for 50 cents, he circled seven bowls of water lined neatly on a table.

"This water- the cleanest, the cheapest the most precious thing in keeping life pure- is our offering for Lord Buddha," he explained. "This is part of Tibetan culture, and, to us, nothing is more important than our culture."

"The Chinese our culture in Tibet, and the Tibetans living in India have been Indianized. The United States is the only place left that encourages our culture, and Minneapolis may be our best hope."

Welcome to the Tibetan cultural mecca of the Western Hemisphere.

Five years ago, when seven American sites- including the Twin Cities- were selected by Tibetan officials in India and New York for the Tibetan Resettlement Project, clusters of Tibetans were expected to come to this country and alert



*Star Tribune photo by Bruce Bisping
Thinly Woser posed with (clockwise from left) son
Tenzin Phelgye, 14; daughters Tsering Yangkyi,
16, and Tenzin Yangzom, 18, and wife Tenzin
Choedon. Choedon settled here in 1992; Woser
and the children arrived in June of '96.*

Latino Population: Demographic Information

POPULATION DENSITY

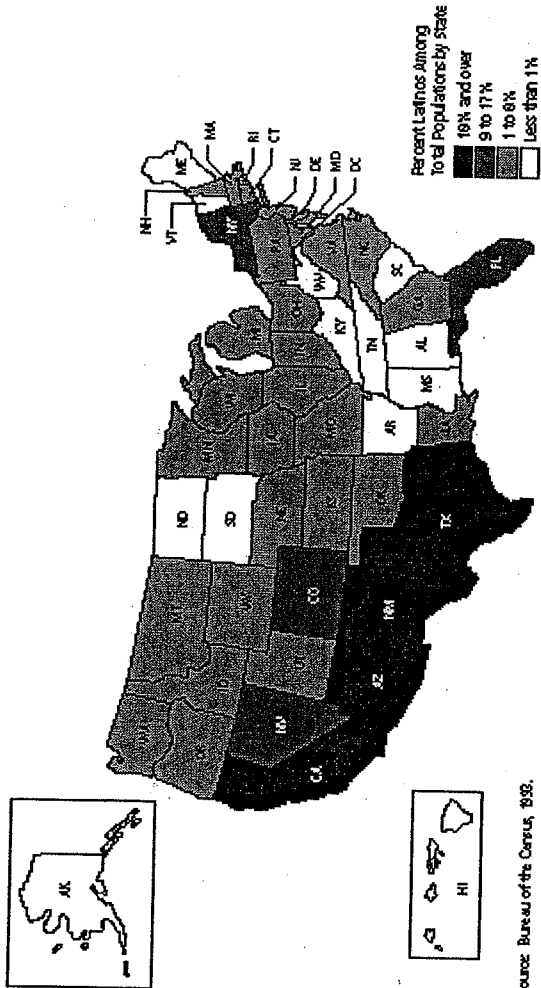
Latinos are the second largest minority population in the United States, totaling approximately 22.4 million people, or about 9 percent of the total U.S. population of about 250 million (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993b). Between 1980 and 1990, the Latino population increased by 53 percent. This rate of growth is more than five times that of the total U.S. population (9.5 percent) and about eight times that of non-Latinos (6.6 percent). About half of this growth is attributed to the natural increase in the population, and the other half is the result of immigration (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993b). It is estimated that by the year 2000 Latinos will become the largest minority group in the Nation and that by the year 2050 they will represent about 20 percent of the total U.S. population (National Council of La Raza, 1992).

COMPOSITION AND DISTRIBUTION

Latinos are a culturally, demographically, and geographically diverse population. According to the 1990 census, persons of Mexican origin form the largest Latino population group in the United States, numbering more than 13 million persons, followed by Puerto Ricans, who number close to 3 million, and Cuban-Americans, numbering slightly more than 1 million (figure 1). In 1990, more than half of Latinos (64.2 percent) were native-born Americans and nearly three-quarters were either native-born or naturalized citizens (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993b).

Latinos live in all 50 States and the District of Columbia (figure 2), but they are more concentrated in certain areas. In 1990, nearly 9 out of 10 Latinos lived in just 10 States. The four with the largest proportion of Latino residents were California, Florida, New York, and Texas. Other States with significant Latino populations were Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New Mexico. According to Current Population Survey data, more than half of Latinos are concentrated in two States--California and Texas (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993b).

Figure 2
National Distribution of U.S. Latino Population: 1990



Source: Bureau of the Census, 1992.

African-American History Month: February 2003

36.4 million

The number of U.S. residents who say they are African-American or African-American in combination with one or more other races. This group makes up 12.9 percent of the total population. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/cb01cn176.html>>

Population Distribution

States

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The number of states with 1 million or more African-American residents. Ten (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia) are in the South. The remaining seven are California, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Combined, they account for more than 80 percent of the nation's African-Americans. New York has the largest African-American population (3.2 million), with California, Texas, Florida and Georgia also exceeding 2 million. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/cb01cn176.html>>

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The percent of Mississippi's population who say they are African-American. Louisiana (33 percent), South Carolina (30 percent), Georgia and Maryland (29 percent each) and Alabama (26 percent) followed. The District of Columbia, a state equivalent, has the highest proportion of African-Americans: 61 percent. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/cb01cn176.html>>

Cities

2.3 million

The number of people in New York city who say they are African-American. New York leads all the nation's cities in this category. Chicago is second, with 1.1 million, followed by Detroit; Philadelphia; Houston; Los Angeles; Baltimore; Memphis, Tenn.; Washington, D.C.; and New Orleans. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2001/cb01cn176.html>>