Toward an Educated, Tolerant, Pluralistic New Jersey

Presented at Supporting Immigrant Children in New Jersey
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Immigrant Indices

Summed values of Limited English Proficiency class enrollment, non-English speaking population, and foreign-born population.

| County boundary | Municipal boundary | High | Low |

Sources:
- 2000 Census for census tracts in the state of New Jersey
- 2009 Limited English Proficiency enrollment data, New Jersey Department of Education

Rutgers
Eagleton Institute of Politics
Distinctive New Jersey

• **Unrivaled diversity** marks New Jersey’s foreign born population.

• New Jersey has a **constant** history of immigration.

• On average, immigrants to New Jersey tend to be more **educated** than those elsewhere, but also **less** educated.
NJ Context: A Rich and Dynamic Blend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1990:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Philippines</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Today:
Origins of Mercer's 67,000 Newcomers

Europe: 21%
America: 41%
Asia: 31%
Africa: 7%

Top 10 Nations
- India: 8,520
- Guatemala: 8,392
- Poland: 3,672
- China: 3,355
- Mexico: 3,062
- Ecuador: 2,612
- Haiti: 2,446
- Jamaica: 1,776
- Liberia: 1,652
- Philippines: 1,649

Data Set: 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Global New Jersey, the view from the schools

NJ students speak 187 languages

175,000 native Spanish speakers. Only 43,000 (1 in 4) classified as LEP.

Other largest foreign language populations in NJ:

ARABIC  GUJARATI  URDU  BENGALI
KOREAN  HAITIAN  POLISH  VIETNAMESE
PORTUGUESE  CREOLE  TAGALOG
MANDARIN
Mercer students: the details

3% Limited English Proficient (4% statewide)
  (High is Hudson County’s 10%)

22% receive free lunch (26% statewide)
  (High is Essex 42%; but 34% Atlantic)

6% receive reduced price lunch (= statewide avg.)
  (Highs in rural Cumberland and Atlantic, 10%)
Enrollment Mercer County K-12

- White Male: 23%
- White Female: 22%
- Black Male: 12%
- Black Female: 11%
- Hispanic Male: 9%
- Hispanic Female: 8%
- Asian Male: 8%
- Asian Female: 7%

Mercer enrollment: 0%
Dropouts, Mercer County K-12

- **Asian Male:** 1%
- **Asian Female:** 1%
- **Black Male:** 28%
- **Black Female:** 28%
- **Hispanic Male:** 19%
- **Hispanic Female:** 14%
- **White Male:** 5%
- **White Female:** 4%
- **Hispanic Male:** 19%
- **Hispanic Female:** 14%
- **Asian Male:** 1%
- **Asian Female:** 1%
- **Black Male:** 28%
- **Black Female:** 28%

2009-2010 NJ DOE
NJ 4th Graders Scoring Below Proficient Reading Level, 2009

- White: 49%
- African-American: 82%
- Latino: 81%

National KIDS COUNT Program
Crossroads of the World: New Americans in Middlesex County, New Jersey

Anastasia R. Mann, Ph.D.
Thank you.