

SPOTLIGHT ON STATS

IECAM Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map

Languages Other Than English (2015)

In 2015, close to 2.5% of households in Illinois spoke Spanish as their primary language, with a slightly smaller percentage (2.3%) speaking other languages, such as Polish and Arabic.

These data are based on responses to the following questions from the American Community Survey (ACS): Does this person speak a language other than English at home? And, what is the language? These questions are designed to be answered for people age 5 and older.

For those under age 5, the data are based on the response to this question by the mother, father, or head of household (in order of preference if present in the household). Thus, the data represent the language spoken

by the child or likely being learned by the child.

The maps below were developed using 2015 data from geographic areas known as PUMAs. [1] Knowing where certain languages are prevalent is important because these children may be enrolled in Preschool for All and other community settings.

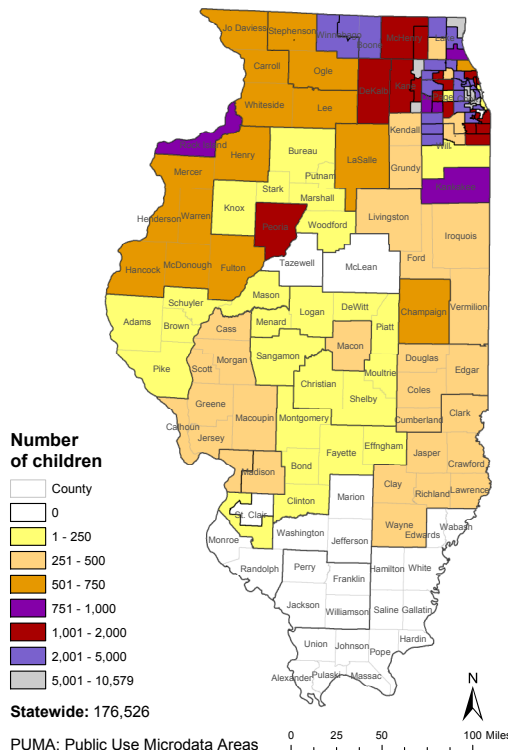
While it is well-known that Spanish is spoken by large numbers of families across the state and that Polish is prevalent in the Chicago area, the prevalence of other languages spoken in Illinois is less known.

For more information, data, and maps for other languages, visit <http://iecam.illinois.edu/characteristics-demographics/child-language/>

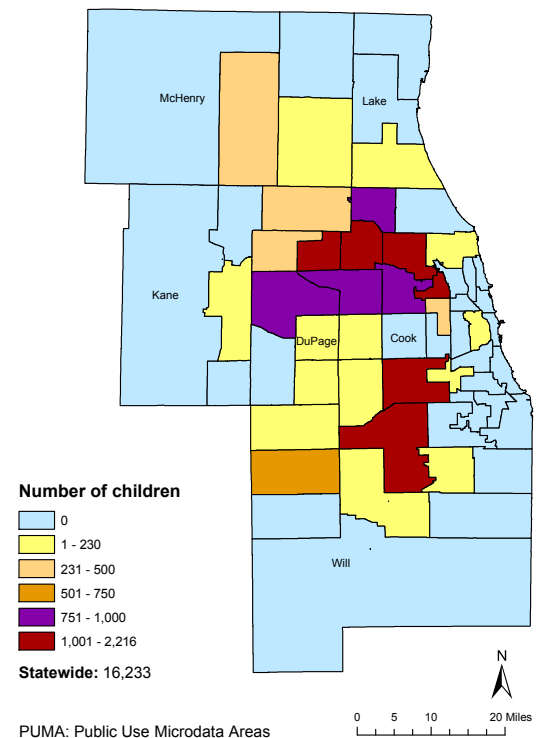
IECAM provides a comprehensive picture of early care and education services in Illinois by combining demographic data (population, language use, poverty level, characteristics) and early childhood program data (Preschool for All, Head Start, Child Care).

Spotlight on Stats is a periodic data resource that will highlight particular demographic data (e.g., languages, risk factors, population characteristics) on the state as a whole.

Number of children from birth to age 5 speaking Spanish by PUMA (2015)



Number of children from birth to age 5 speaking Polish by PUMA (2015)



[1] Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) are geographic areas for which the Census Bureau provides selected extracts of raw data from a small sample of Census records that are screened to protect confidentiality. These extracts are referred to as public use microdata sample (PUMS) files. For the decennial census, each state delineates PUMAs for use in presenting PUMS data. These areas are required to contain at least 100,000 people. For information on PUMAs, see <http://iecam.illinois.edu/definitions/definitions-geo-regions/def-pumas/>

IECAM is funded by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Human Services. For more information, contact Dawn Thomas at dthomas3@illinois.edu