

Hawaii Economic Issues

Periodic research and data reports on issues of current interest
State of Hawaii - Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
Research & Economic Analysis Division



Data Report 2011

The Non-English Speaking Population in Hawaii

Introduction

The report examines social, economic and demographic characteristics of people in Hawaii who speak language other than English at home and by the level of their speaking ability of English.

In Hawaii, 24.8 percent of households speak a language other than English at home.

Only 54.5 percent of that population is able to speak English “very well.”

18.5 percent of Hawaii’s population reports speaking English “not well” or “not at all.”

This report only presents the most current data available and does not examine the policy implications of these data.

Data in this report are mainly on population 5 years old and above who speak another language at home. The tables in this report were tabulated by using the U.S. Census Bureau’s the American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2008 3-Year estimates PUMS data. The ACS is the survey conducted nationwide throughout the year and collects information about demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics of people. It has replaced the decennial census long form for Census 2010.

The ACS is available by single-year, 3-year and 5-year multi-year estimates collected over a period of time depending on the size of the geography. The multiyear estimates are more reliable to observe the small sample population. For more information, the ACS can be found at the Census Bureau’s website at <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.



U.S. Census Bureau

American Community Survey



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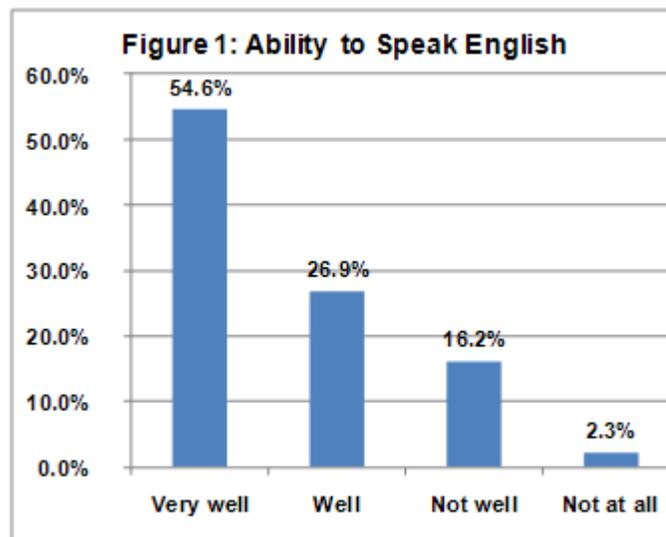
Percent of Non-English Speaking Population and Their English Skills

Table 1 displays the percentage of those who speak language other than English at home or those who speak only English during the 2006-2008 period. Also, it displays the percentage of their ability of speaking English. About one fourth of population in the State of Hawaii speaks another language. Among those who speak language other than English, almost 55 percent of people reported that their English speaking ability was rated “very well” and only about two percent reported that their ability of speaking English as “not at all”.

Table 1: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English (Age 5 Years and Older)

Speak Another Language/English skills	Percent	Margin of Error
No, speaks only English	75.2%	+/- 1.0
Yes, speaks another language	24.8%	+/- 1.0
Ability to speak English:		
Very well	54.6%	+/- 2.2
Well	26.9%	+/- 2.0
Not well	16.2%	+/- 1.7
Not at all	2.3%	+/- .7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Ranking of Non-English Languages Spoken At Home

Table 2 shows the percentage of each language spoken at home during 2006-2008. During this period, Tagalog language was spoken the most at home in Hawaii at 17.7 percent followed by Japanese (16.7%).

The top four languages spoken at home consisted of four Asian Languages:

- 17.7 percent Tagalog,
- 16.7 percent Japanese,
- 15.0 percent Ilocano and
- 9.5 percent Chinese

The largest language groups spoken at home in Hawaii were Asian languages.

Among those Asian languages, Filipino language group that includes Tagalog, Ilocano and Bisayan comprised roughly 35 percent. In contrast, only a few households spoke European languages:

- 1.8 percent of French,
- 1.2 percent of German and
- 8.4 percent of Spanish

Table 2: Language Spoken at Home (Age 5 Years and Older)

Language	Percent	Margin of Error
Tagalog	17.7%	+/- 1.7
Japanese	16.7%	+/- 1.7
Ilocano	15.0%	+/- 1.6
Chinese	9.5%	+/- 1.3
Spanish	8.4%	+/- 1.3
Hawaiian	6.1%	+/- 1.1
Korean	6.0%	+/- 1.1
Other Pacific Island Languages	4.2%	+/- .9
Samoan	3.6%	+/- .8
Vietnamese	2.3%	+/- .7
French	1.8%	+/- .6
German	1.2%	+/- .5
Tongan	1.1%	+/- .5
Bisayan	1.0%	+/- .5
Thai	0.5%	+/- .3
Other	4.8%	+/- 1.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.



Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population

Table 3 shows the percentage share of English speaking ability by language.

Overall, over half percent (54.6%) of people reported that they spoke English very well during the survey (2006-2008) period.

Looking at the percentage share by language, the percentage share of Hawaiian language speakers who rated their English speaking ability “very well” was 92.8 percent—the highest among all non-English languages.

While European language group including French, German and Spanish reported that they spoke English “very well” (91.6% of French, 82.9% of German and 70.4 % of Spanish respectively), less than half a percent of most of Asian language speaking group reported they could speak English “very well”.

Slightly above 10 percent of Chinese speakers rated their English speaking ability “not at all”. Over 30 percent of Vietnamese and Bisayan speakers rated their English speaking ability “not well.” About 70 percent of some Pacific Island language group rated their ability of speaking English as “very well” (68.6 % of Samoan and 66.8% of Tongan).

Table 3: Ability to Speak English by Language (Age 5 Years and Older)

Language	English Ability Very Well %		English Ability Well %		English Ability not Well %		English Ability Not at All %	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	54.6%	+/- 2.2	26.9%	+/- 2.0	16.2%	+/- 1.7	2.3%	+/- .7
Tagalog	49.7%	+/- 5.4	35.6%	+/- 5.1	13.6%	+/- 3.7	1.1%	+/- 1.1
Japanese	56.0%	+/- 5.5	25.6%	+/- 4.8	17.4%	+/- 4.2	1.0%	+/- 1.1
Ilocano	39.0%	+/- 5.7	35.3%	+/- 5.6	24.4%	+/- 5.0	1.3%	+/- 1.3
Chinese	44.0%	+/- 7.3	21.5%	+/- 6.0	23.7%	+/- 6.2	10.8%	+/- 4.5
Spanish	70.4%	+/- 7.1	17.4%	+/- 5.9	11.0%	+/- 4.9	1.3%	+/- 1.7
Hawaiian	92.8%	+/- 4.7	6.0%	+/- 4.3	1.0%	+/- 1.8	0.1%	+/- .7
Korean	35.8%	+/- 8.8	33.4%	+/- 8.7	27.7%	+/- 8.2	3.0%	+/- 3.2
Other Pacific Island Languages	48.4%	+/-11.0	36.8%	+/-10.6	13.3%	+/- 7.5	1.6%	+/- 2.7
Samoan	68.6%	+/-11.1	24.8%	+/-10.3	5.6%	+/- 5.5	1.1%	+/- 2.4
Vietnamese	26.2%	+/-13.0	34.2%	+/-14.1	32.7%	+/-13.9	6.9%	+/- 7.5
French	91.6%	+/- 9.4	6.1%	+/- 8.1	2.3%	+/- 5.1	0.0%	+/- .0
German	82.9%	+/-15.4	11.8%	+/-13.2	5.3%	+/- 9.2	0.0%	+/- .0
Tongan	66.8%	+/-20.0	29.3%	+/-19.3	3.6%	+/- 7.9	0.4%	+/- 2.5
Bisayan	32.1%	+/-20.6	30.2%	+/-20.2	32.2%	+/-20.6	5.5%	+/-10.1
Thai	44.5%	+/-30.6	36.7%	+/-29.7	18.8%	+/-24.1	0.0%	+/- .0
Other	75.4%	+/- 8.8	18.0%	+/- 7.9	4.4%	+/- 4.2	2.2%	+/- 3.0

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.



Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Sex

In Table 4, females had slightly higher percentage of those who spoke a language other than English than males. 27.9 percent of females reported that they spoke another language at home while 72.1 percent spoke only English at home during the 2006-2008 period.

Only 21.7 of males, on the other hand, spoke another language at home. Among those who spoke language other than English, male spoke English “very well” accounted for 56.7 percent which was higher than that of female (52.9 percent).

Table 4: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Sex (Age 5 Years and Older)

Sex	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.6%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
Male	78.3%	+/- 1.3	21.7%	+/- 1.3	56.7%	+/- 3.4	43.3%	+/- 3.4
Female	72.1%	+/- 1.4	27.9%	+/- 1.4	52.9%	+/- 3.0	47.1%	+/- 3.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Age

Table 5 shows the percentage of foreign language speakers and their ability of speaking English varied by the age group.

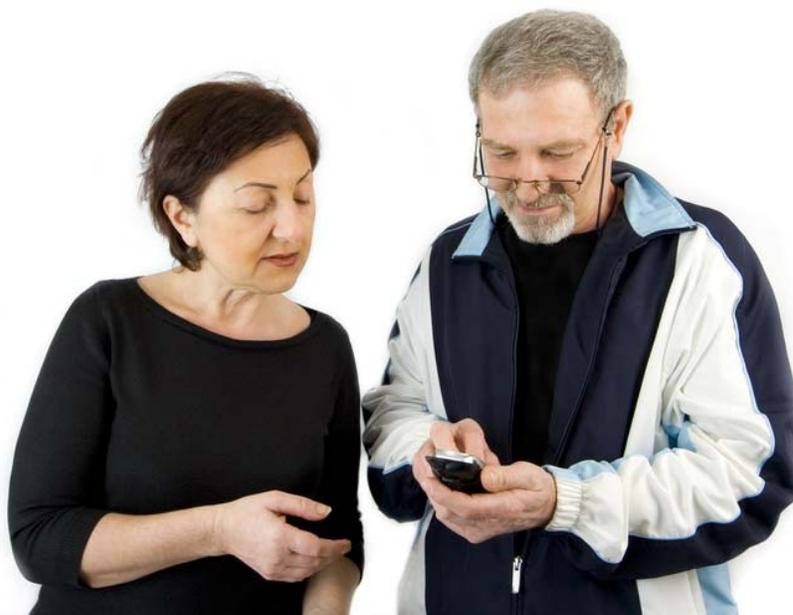
The older generation was found having more difficulty of speaking English than younger generation. Only about 26 percent of those who 5 to 19 years old reported their ability was “less than very well”, however, almost 60 percent of those who were 60 years and older who classified their speaking ability as “less than very well” .

Table 5: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Age (Age 5 Years and Older)

Age	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.6%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
5 to 19 years	82.5%	+/- 1.9	17.5%	+/- 1.9	73.7%	+/- 5.4	26.3%	+/- 5.4
20 to 29 years	78.3%	+/- 2.3	21.7%	+/- 2.3	65.3%	+/- 5.8	34.7%	+/- 5.8
30 to 39 years	72.8%	+/- 2.6	27.2%	+/- 2.6	59.8%	+/- 5.6	40.2%	+/- 5.6
40 to 49 years	72.1%	+/- 2.6	27.9%	+/- 2.6	53.6%	+/- 5.4	46.4%	+/- 5.4
50 to 59 years	75.9%	+/- 2.5	24.1%	+/- 2.5	46.8%	+/- 6.1	53.2%	+/- 6.1
60 years and over	69.6%	+/- 2.3	30.4%	+/- 2.3	40.4%	+/- 4.4	59.6%	+/- 4.4

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Race

Table 6 shows the percentage share of foreign language speakers and their ability of speaking English by race during the 2006-2008 period.

Race is divided by four race alone categories and two or more major races.

The majority of those who are White alone and two or more races spoke only English. Less than 10 percent of White alone and two or more races spoke foreign language at home.

Compared with race categories, 41.1 percent of Asians spoke a foreign language at home. A higher percentage of Asians rated their English speaking ability “less than very well” (55.8%) - a

Table 6: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Race Alone (Age 5 Years and Older)

Race	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.6%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
White alone	90.2%	+/- 1.3	9.8%	+/- 1.3	81.3%	+/- 5.4	18.7%	+/- 5.4
Asian alone	58.9%	+/- 1.7	41.1%	+/- 1.7	44.2%	+/- 2.7	55.8%	+/- 2.7
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	68.1%	+/- 3.6	31.9%	+/- 3.6	64.0%	+/- 6.5	36.0%	+/- 6.5
Some other race alone	76.0%	+/- 4.8	24.0%	+/- 4.8	64.9%	+/- 11.0	35.1%	+/- 11.0
Two or more major race groups	90.2%	+/- 1.5	9.8%	+/- 1.5	86.8%	+/- 5.4	13.2%	+/- 5.4

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population By School Enrollment

During the 2006-2008 period, those who hadn’t attended school in the last three months spoke foreign language about 8 percent higher than those who were attending private school or private college (table 7). Almost 50 percent of those who hadn’t attended school in the last 3 months re-

Table 7: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by School Enrollment (Age 5 Years and Older)

School Enrollment	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.6%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
No, has not attended in the last 3 months	73.7%	+/- 1.1	28.3%	+/- 1.1	50.2%	+/- 2.5	49.8%	+/- 2.5
Yes, public school or public college	79.4%	+/- 2.1	20.6%	+/- 2.1	73.3%	+/- 5.0	26.7%	+/- 5.0
Yes, private school or private college	81.9%	+/- 3.8	18.1%	+/- 3.8	69.2%	+/- 10.7	30.8%	+/- 10.7

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.



Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Grade level

The data shows that fewer students in early grade levels spoke foreign language at home.

Fewer students who were attending elementary school and middle school during the 2006-2008 period spoke a foreign language at home compared to students in other grade levels (15.6% of those in elementary school and 15.7% of those in middle school respectively).

As educational levels increase, the ability to speak a foreign language increases.

Those who were attending graduate or professional school had the ability to speak a foreign language at a rate nearly twice that of those who were attending elementary and middle school.

Although not many preschoolers spoke foreign language at home, preschoolers who did speak a foreign language at home had an English speaking ability rated as “less than very well”.

Table 8: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Grade Level Attending (Age 5 Years and Older)

Grade Level Attending	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.8%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
N/A (not attending school)	73.7%	+/- 1.1	28.3%	+/- 1.1	50.2%	+/- 2.5	49.8%	+/- 2.5
Nursery school/preschool, Kindergarten	83.8%	+/- 7.0	18.4%	+/- 7.0	58.8%	+/- 23.0	41.4%	+/- 23.0
Grade 1 to grade 4	84.4%	+/- 3.7	15.6%	+/- 3.7	72.4%	+/- 11.5	27.6%	+/- 11.5
Grade 5 to grade 8	84.3%	+/- 3.6	15.7%	+/- 3.6	78.6%	+/- 10.2	21.4%	+/- 10.2
Grade 9 to grade 12	79.1%	+/- 3.8	20.9%	+/- 3.8	73.0%	+/- 9.0	27.0%	+/- 9.0
College undergraduate	74.7%	+/- 4.0	25.3%	+/- 4.0	69.5%	+/- 8.5	30.5%	+/- 8.5
Graduate or professional school	68.9%	+/- 9.2	31.1%	+/- 9.2	78.0%	+/- 14.7	22.0%	+/- 14.7

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Educational Attainment

There was a strong correlation between educational attainment and English speaking ability.

More of those whose educational attainment was graduate or professional school level reported they spoke mostly English at home.

Only about 21 percent of people who achieved graduate school or professional school degree spoke less than very well.

Close to 57 percent of those who had less than high school degree reported their ability of speaking English “less than very well”.

Table 9: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Educational Attainment (Age 5 Years and Older)

Educational Attainment	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.0	24.8%	+/- 1.0	54.6%	+/- 2.2	45.4%	+/- 2.2
less Than high school	72.0%	+/- 2.0	28.0%	+/- 2.0	43.1%	+/- 4.2	56.9%	+/- 4.2
high school graduate	74.7%	+/- 1.9	25.3%	+/- 1.9	48.3%	+/- 4.4	51.7%	+/- 4.4
some college	78.1%	+/- 2.1	21.9%	+/- 2.1	61.6%	+/- 5.4	38.4%	+/- 5.4
associate degree	72.6%	+/- 3.6	27.4%	+/- 3.6	62.4%	+/- 7.5	37.6%	+/- 7.5
bachelor degree	76.4%	+/- 2.5	23.6%	+/- 2.5	67.1%	+/- 5.7	32.9%	+/- 5.7
graduate or professional degree	80.8%	+/- 3.3	19.2%	+/- 3.3	79.2%	+/- 7.8	20.8%	+/- 7.8

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Marital Status

Not being married, or being divorced would seem to spur English speaking ability.

Table 10 shows the percentage share of those who spoke foreign language at home and their ability of speaking English by marital status.

When measured by marital status those who spoke another language at home fell in the range of roughly between 20 percent and 30 percent— except for those who were widowed, who measured 40.6 percent.

Those who were widowed had a higher percentage of those who spoke foreign language at home (40.6%).

Among those who spoke foreign language at home in each marital status, “never married before” had the smallest percentage of English speaking ability “less than very well” (35.5%).

Table 10: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Marital Status (Age 15 Years and Older)

Marital Status	Total Population 15 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	74.0%	+/- 1.1	28.0%	+/- 1.1	52.9%	+/- 2.4	47.1%	+/- 2.4
Married	71.3%	+/- 1.5	28.7%	+/- 1.5	49.3%	+/- 3.1	50.7%	+/- 3.1
Widowed	59.4%	+/- 4.7	40.6%	+/- 4.7	42.0%	+/- 7.3	58.0%	+/- 7.3
Divorced	79.7%	+/- 3.2	20.3%	+/- 3.2	55.3%	+/- 8.7	44.7%	+/- 8.7
Separated	71.6%	+/- 9.3	28.4%	+/- 9.3	46.1%	+/- 19.4	53.9%	+/- 19.4
Never married before	79.5%	+/- 1.7	20.5%	+/- 1.7	64.7%	+/- 4.5	35.3%	+/- 4.5

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Nativity

Confirming common wisdom, those who are native born are much more likely to speak only English at home.

During the 2006-2008 period, only 11.8 percent of those who were native born spoke a language other than English at home while 83.6 percent of those who were foreign born spoke a foreign language at home.

Among the foreign born, the percentage share of those who reported that their ability of speaking English as “less than very well” was nearly three times larger than those native born. 61.3 percent of foreign born reported they spoke English “less than very well.”

Table 11: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Nativity (Age 5 Years and Older)

Nativity	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.2%	+/- 1.4	24.8%	+/- 1.4	54.6%	+/- 3.1	45.4%	+/- 3.1
Native	88.2%	+/- 1.1	11.8%	+/- 1.1	79.6%	+/- 4.1	20.4%	+/- 4.1
Foreign born	16.4%	+/- 2.7	83.6%	+/- 2.7	38.7%	+/- 3.9	61.3%	+/- 3.9

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Citizenship

Those who spoke other than English at home was higher among people who were either naturalized U.S. citizen or non-citizen people (table 12).

81.6 percent of naturalized citizens spoke a foreign language, and 86.1 percent of non-citizens spoke a foreign language during the 2006-2008 period. The percentage share of those who spoke English “less than very well” among non-citizens was more than 10 percent higher than that of the naturalized U.S. citizens (67.2% of non-citizen and 56.4% of naturalized citizen).

Table 12: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Citizenship (Age 5 Years and Older) 1/

Citizenship	Total Population 5 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	16.4%	+/- 2.7	83.6%	+/- 2.7	38.7%	+/- 3.9	61.3%	+/- 3.9
U.S. citizen by naturalization	18.4%	+/- 3.8	81.6%	+/- 3.8	43.6%	+/- 5.4	56.4%	+/- 5.4
Not a citizen of the U.S.	13.9%	+/- 3.8	86.1%	+/- 3.8	32.8%	+/- 5.6	67.2%	+/- 5.6

MOE = Margin of error

1/ Include Only foreign born population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Oral English Skills by the Nativity of Parents

Table 13: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Nativity of Parent (Age 5 to 17 Years Old) 1/

Nativity of Parent	Total Population 5 to 17 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	83.4%	+/- 3.0	16.6%	+/- 3.0	76.2%	+/- 8.4	23.8%	+/- 8.4
Living with two parents who are both native	93.8%	+/- 2.7	6.2%	+/- 2.7	91.8%	+/- 12.5	8.2%	+/- 12.5
Living with two parents and either parent is foreign born	77.8%	+/- 10.3	22.2%	+/- 10.3	73.1%	+/- 23.2	26.9%	+/- 23.2
Living with two parents who are both foreign born	40.6%	+/- 11.4	59.4%	+/- 11.4	70.1%	+/- 13.8	29.9%	+/- 13.8
Living with one parent who is native	91.8%	+/- 4.5	8.2%	+/- 4.5	82.9%	+/- 21.8	17.1%	+/- 21.8
Living with one parent who is foreign born	49.4%	+/- 19.3	50.6%	+/- 19.3	71.3%	+/- 24.5	28.7%	+/- 24.5

MOE = Margin of error

1/ Exclude those who are greater than 17 years old, not an own child of householder and not child in subfamily.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.



Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Employment Status

Table 14 shows the percentage share of foreign language speakers and their ability to speak English by employment status during the 2006-2008 period.

The gap between each employment status for the percentage share of foreign language speakers was not significant - except in the Armed Forces. Fewer people who were in Armed Forces spoke language other than English at home. Also, fewer people in Armed Forces reported that they spoke English "less than very well" (12.9%).

Table 14: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Employment Status (Age 16 Years and Older)

Employment Status	Total Population 16 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	73.9%	+/- 1.1	28.1%	+/- 1.1	52.5%	+/- 2.4	47.5%	+/- 2.4
Civilian employed	74.9%	+/- 1.4	25.1%	+/- 1.4	54.9%	+/- 3.1	45.1%	+/- 3.1
Unemployed	76.9%	+/- 6.2	23.1%	+/- 6.2	62.2%	+/- 14.8	37.8%	+/- 14.8
Armed forces	85.3%	+/- 4.4	14.7%	+/- 4.4	87.1%	+/- 10.9	12.9%	+/- 10.9
Not in labor force	70.4%	+/- 1.9	29.6%	+/- 1.9	46.5%	+/- 3.8	53.5%	+/- 3.8

MOE = Margin of error

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.





Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Industry

When viewed by the industry that people were engaged in, Agriculture and Accommodation and Food Services industries had a high ratio of those who spoke another language at home (41.5% and 41.3% respectively).

Government employees had far fewer foreign language speakers than Agriculture and Accommodation (15.8%).

Educational Services (81.7%), Arts, Entertainment and Recreation (81.4%) and Information (80.2%) showed a very high ratio of fluent English language speakers.

Almost 75 percent of people in agriculture industry rated their ability of speaking English as “less than very well” which was the highest among all other industries. Besides a fewer foreign language speakers in Government sector, many of those who spoke other language at home reported they could speak English “very well” (76.8%).

Table 15: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Industry (Age 16 Years and Older) 1/

Industry	Total Population 16 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	75.5%	+/- 1.3	24.5%	+/- 1.3	55.4%	+/- 3.0	44.6%	+/- 3.0
Agriculture	58.5%	+/-11.9	41.5%	+/-11.9	27.7%	+/-16.7	72.3%	+/-16.7
Mining and Construction	79.7%	+/- 4.1	20.3%	+/- 4.1	45.2%	+/-11.2	54.8%	+/-11.2
Manufacturing	71.9%	+/- 7.4	28.1%	+/- 7.4	38.3%	+/-15.1	61.7%	+/-15.1
Wholesale Trade	75.0%	+/- 8.0	25.0%	+/- 8.0	48.7%	+/-18.4	51.3%	+/-18.4
Retail Trade	75.1%	+/- 3.8	24.9%	+/- 3.8	53.4%	+/- 8.8	46.6%	+/- 8.8
Transportation and Warehousing, Utilities	79.3%	+/- 5.3	20.7%	+/- 5.3	60.6%	+/-14.0	39.5%	+/-14.0
Information	80.2%	+/- 8.4	19.8%	+/- 8.4	68.4%	+/-22.1	31.6%	+/-22.1
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	79.4%	+/- 4.8	20.6%	+/- 4.8	69.0%	+/-12.0	31.0%	+/-12.0
Professional & Business Services	76.8%	+/- 4.0	23.2%	+/- 4.0	61.0%	+/- 9.6	39.0%	+/- 9.6
Educational Services	81.7%	+/- 3.8	18.3%	+/- 3.8	72.2%	+/-10.3	27.8%	+/-10.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	73.5%	+/- 4.3	26.5%	+/- 4.3	66.7%	+/- 8.8	33.3%	+/- 8.8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	81.4%	+/- 7.2	18.6%	+/- 7.2	63.8%	+/-20.5	36.2%	+/-20.5
Accommodation and Food Services	58.7%	+/- 4.2	41.3%	+/- 4.2	42.3%	+/- 6.6	57.7%	+/- 6.6
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	71.0%	+/- 6.4	29.0%	+/- 6.4	41.1%	+/-12.9	58.9%	+/-12.9
Government	84.2%	+/- 3.0	15.8%	+/- 3.0	76.8%	+/- 8.8	23.2%	+/- 8.8

MOE = Margin of error

1/ Exclude those who are less than 16 years old, currently unemployed, unemployed who never worked, not in the labor force who last worked more than 5 years ago.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.



Oral English Skills of the Non-English Speaking Population by Income Level

The higher the income, the less a person is likely to speak a language other than English at home during the 2006-2008 period. About 31 percent of those who earned less than \$10,000 reported speaking a language other than English at home - almost twice as many as those who earned more \$75,000 or more.

Also, income levels affected the rate of English speaking ability. Only 28 percent of those who earned \$75,000 or more reported their ability of speaking English was “less than very well.” On the other hand, more than 50 percent of those who earned less than \$25,000 reported their spoke English “less than very well”.

Table 16: Speak Another Language at Home and Ability to Speak English by Total Person's Income (Age 15 Years and Older) 1/

Total Person's Income	Total Population 15 Years and Older				Population Speaks Another Language			
	Speaks Only English		Speaks Another Language at Home		English Ability Very Well		English Ability Less Than Very Well	
	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE	Percent	MOE
Total	74.0%	+/- 1.1	28.0%	+/- 1.1	52.9%	+/- 2.5	47.1%	+/- 2.5
Less Than \$10,000	69.1%	+/- 2.3	30.9%	+/- 2.3	49.0%	+/- 4.4	51.0%	+/- 4.4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	67.9%	+/- 4.3	32.1%	+/- 4.3	47.5%	+/- 8.0	52.5%	+/- 8.0
\$15,000 to \$24,999	68.9%	+/- 3.1	31.1%	+/- 3.1	47.3%	+/- 6.0	52.7%	+/- 6.0
\$25,000 to \$34,999	73.0%	+/- 3.1	27.0%	+/- 3.1	51.6%	+/- 6.7	48.4%	+/- 6.7
\$35,000 to \$49,999	78.0%	+/- 2.8	22.0%	+/- 2.8	60.5%	+/- 7.0	39.5%	+/- 7.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	82.7%	+/- 2.7	17.3%	+/- 2.7	62.8%	+/- 8.4	37.2%	+/- 8.4
\$75,000 or more	84.1%	+/- 3.0	15.9%	+/- 3.0	72.0%	+/- 9.3	28.0%	+/- 9.3

MOE = Margin of error

1/ The sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; social security or railroad retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; and payment for retirement, survivor, or disability

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

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