

APPENDIX I: METHODOLOGY

ADULT LITERACY SECONDARY DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

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This appendix was prepared by by Susan White, Ph.D., and Jennifer Reid, M.S., of Virginia Commonwealth University's Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory (SERL) for the Summary Report of Characteristics of Foreign Born in Virginia.
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Secondary data collection was conducted to gather information on foreign born individuals living in Virginia for the adult literacy project. Data was collected between November 25, 2012, and January 15, 2013, by the Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory at Virginia Commonwealth University. The data obtained was gathered into 14 excel worksheets. A worksheet addresses each of the variables of interest to the Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center, organized by adult education region, and one worksheet contains information on all the variables of interest for Virginia as a whole.

An internet search was conducted to locate the most recent and reliable data concerning foreign born in Virginia. The data that was ultimately used came from the United States Census Bureau website. Data was pulled from the following U.S. Census tables and datasets: S0502, the American Community Survey s501, DP02, and NP01 summaries.

Table S0502 was used to gather 5 year estimates by adult education region, and included each town, county and independent city in that region. Table DP02 (Selected Social Characteristics) of the ACS was used to collect information on towns, counties and cities with populations under 50,000.

Data was not available for every variable for all localities within each region. If we were not able to obtain information for each and every locality within a region, an asterisk will appear next to the region name in the top row of the spreadsheet. A list of those localities where no data was available is then included in the spreadsheet for the corresponding variable. Data for each of the twenty-two adult education regions represented is either for the region as a whole, some locations within the region, or none of the region. For those regions where partial data was obtained an asterisk appears next to the region name (on top line) followed by the locations that may not be represented. "May not be represented" refers to instances in which the coding of the Census data did not allow us to access a specific locale as defined by VALRC and in which case the Census data regions were defined slightly differently. Those regions where no data was found will contain NA in the cells indicating no data was found for that location.

