

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama



In partnership with:



Alabama Baptist Convention  
**State Board of Missions**

*This resource is made possible by gifts of Alabama  
Baptists through the Cooperative Program.*

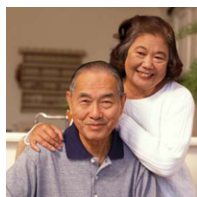
# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Race & Ethnicity Backgrounds	3
2.	Racial & Ethnic Age Groups	4
3.	Citizenship Status of Foreign Born by Race/Ethnicity	5
4.	Language Spoken at Home (Pop Age 5+) & Ability to Speak English for the Foreign Born by Race/Ethnicity	6
5.	Region of Birth for the Foreign Born by Gender & Year of Entry	7
6.	Marital Status by Race/Ethnicity & Foreign Born Status	8
7.	Education by Race/Ethnicity & Foreign Born Status	9
8.	Household Income by Race/Ethnicity & Foreign Born Status	10
9.	Recent & Ancestral Origins by Race/Ethnicity & Foreign Born Status	11
10.	Non-English Languages Spoken by Race/Ethnicity & Foreign Born Status	12

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## RACE & ETHNICITY BACKGROUNDS



### ASIAN AMERICANS

All Asian ethnic backgrounds such as Chinese, Indian, Persian, Iraqi, etc.

Population: 3,772



### MULTI-RACIAL AMERICANS

All multi-racial families that include two or more racial backgrounds

Population: 2,016



### BLACK AMERICANS

All African-Americans and racially black African immigrants

Population: 20,165



### PACIFIC AMERICANS

All Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders are included

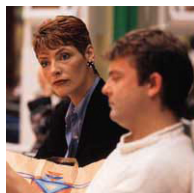
Population: 0



### HISPANIC AMERICANS

All Hispanics or Latinos from all country of origins including all racial backgrounds

Population: 10,562



### WHITE AMERICANS

All White or Caucasian people mostly from European backgrounds

Population: 154,877



### NATIVE AMERICANS

All Native American tribes are included, including those living on native lands

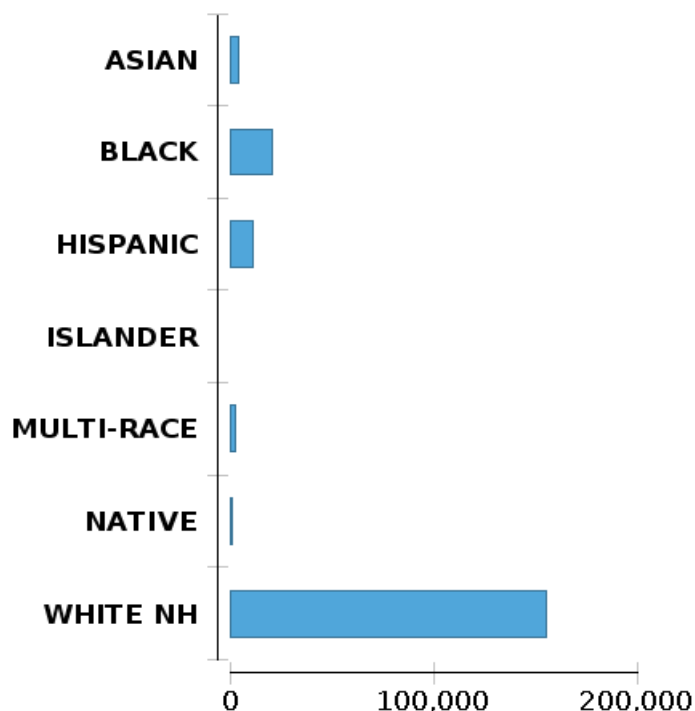
Population: 551

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The racial and ethnic information shown provide a window into the type of people that live in this location. As you consider this information, the following questions may need to be addressed:

1. What is the dominant racial or ethnic categories that needs to be reached?
2. To your knowledge, are there existing ministries that are effectively reaching each of these groups?
3. Are there groups that are not being reached effectively?
4. What can you do to connect with these groups in order to reach them?

### Population by Race & Ethnicity



# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## RACIAL & ETHNIC AGE GROUPS

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The racial/ethnic groups in this county span across several generations and age groupings. In the table below you will find the population counts by age group and race/ethnicity. The "White NH" represents those who are white (or caucasian) and are non-Hispanic. As you consider the racial/ethnic make up of these age groups you will want to consider several issues:

1. What are the largest age groups within each race/ethnicity? Are they the same? Are they different?
2. Compare the racial/ethnic concentration of pre-schoolers (under age 5 years) with the racial/ethnic concentration of those in the older age groups. Are they distributed across the racial/ethnic groups in the same way, or is there a difference? What does this tell you about changes in the racial/ethnic profile of this county over time? Reflect on the ministries that are reaching pre-schoolers in this county. Are each of the racial/ethnic groups being adequately reached? Which pre-school groups are likely underreached? What can be done to be more effective in reaching them?
3. In the same way as #2 above, compare the racial/ethnic concentrations of the school-aged youth.
4. Review the number of 18-24 year olds in the county within each racial/ethnic group. How well are the churches in the county penetrating this key group? Which groups are underreached and underserved?
5. Evaluate the number of Senior Adults noted by the following age groups: 55-64 years (Maturing Adults); 65-84 years (Aging Adults); and 85+ (Elderly Adults). What types of Senior Adult ministries are needed to reach the seniors within the various ethnic groups?
6. Review the number of 25-34 year olds (Young Adults) and the number of 35-54 year olds (Middle-aged Adults) within each racial/ethnic group. How well are the churches in the county penetrating these adults? Which groups are underreached and underserved?



AGE GROUPS	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	ISLANDER	MULTI-RACE	NATIVE	WHITE NH
0-5 yrs	292	1,610	1,423	0	249	32	9,505
05-17 yrs	771	4,159	2,446	0	712	97	27,960
18-24 yrs	261	2,056	1,306	0	151	68	11,063
25-34 yrs	680	3,612	2,380	0	287	55	19,965
35-54 yrs	1,263	6,078	2,443	0	408	208	48,210
55-64 yrs	271	1,608	371	0	99	70	19,847
65-84 yrs	234	939	183	0	110	13	16,458
85+ yrs	0	103	10	0	0	8	1,869

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

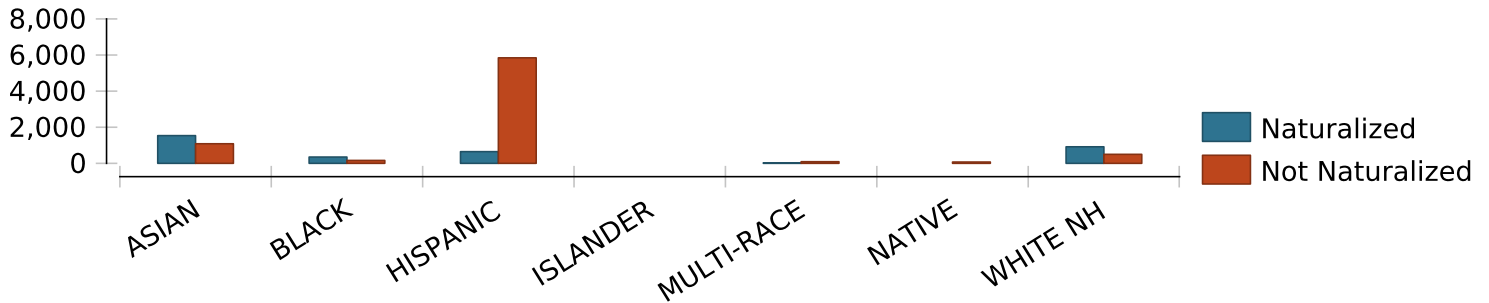
## CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF FOREIGN BORN BY RACE/ETHNICITY

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The information on this page annotates the citizenship status of the foreign born in this county by race / ethnicity for both children under age 18 and adults over age 18. This information does not give the countries of origin because that will be discussed later in the report.

Some foreign born have completed the naturalization process and others have not. Naturalization is the process by which US citizenship is granted to a foreign citizen or national after he or she fulfills the requirements established by Congress. Large number of unnaturalized people in a racial category indicates that likely a significant percentage are likely to be fairly recent immigrants. As you review the table below, you may want to consider the following questions:

1. Review the numbers of foreign born children who have not been naturalized. Consider their potential needs growing up in a foreign environment. What issues do they and their families face that create opportunities for your church to minister?
2. Review the numbers of foreign born adults who have not been naturalized. Compare the numbers from each of the racial / ethnic categories. Which categories provide the most ministry opportunities?



CITIZENSHIP	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	ISLANDER	MULTI-RACE	NATIVE	WHITE NH
0-18 FB Naturalized	78	0	30	0	9	0	211
0-18 FB Not Naturalized	247	0	987	0	0	0	42
18+ FB Naturalized	1,459	351	619	0	20	0	707
18+ FB Not Naturalized	839	162	4,859	0	92	74	458



# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME (POP AGE 5+) & ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE FOREIGN BORN BY RACE/ETHNICITY

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

This page does not list the specific languages other than English that are spoken by the foreign born who live in this county because that will be listed later in the report. However, this page addresses how well the foreign born age 5 and over speak English. By evaluating this information, you will be able to discern categories of foreign born people for whom English as a Second Language instruction may be appropriate. In addition, if there are large numbers of English speaking foreign born people in the county there may be a need for an English-speaking International church. As you consider the table below, you may want to consider these questions:

1. Which racial/ethnic groups have larger number of foreign born immigrants who do not speak English well? Are there enough numbers to start English as a Second Language classes (specific language use will be discussed later in the report)?
2. Are there large numbers of English speaking foreign born immigrants? If they were attend existing churches would they feel comfortable culturally? If an international church does not exist, should one be started?



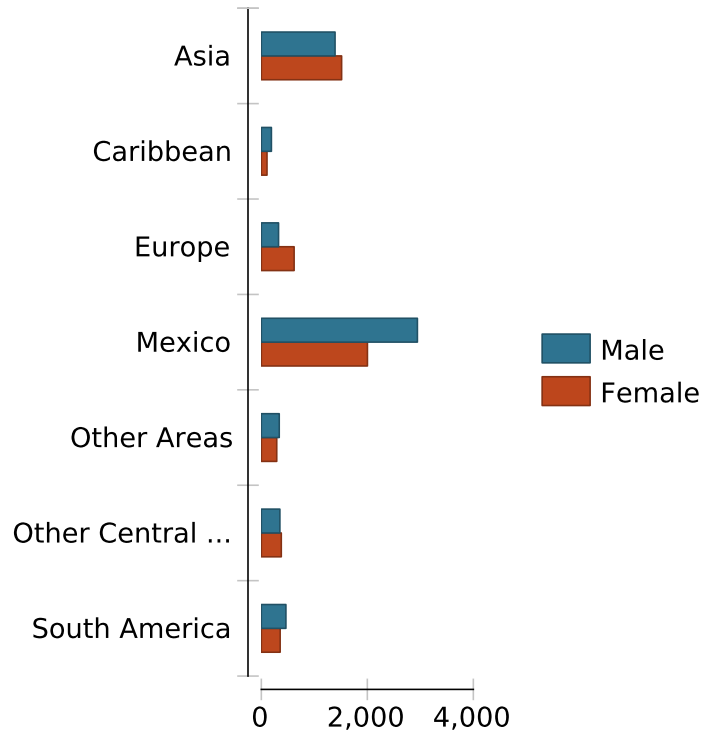
Race/Ethnicity	Speak Only English	Speak Other Lang: English Not Well	Speak Other Lang: English Well	Total Foreign Born
ASIAN	402	1,048	1,121	2,571
BLACK	208	18	287	513
HISPANIC	209	4,346	1,888	6,443
ISLANDER	0	0	0	0
MULTI-RACE	57	16	48	121
NATIVE	0	74	0	74
WHITE NH	855	114	416	1,385

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## REGION OF BIRTH FOR THE FOREIGN BORN BY GENDER AND YEAR OF ENTRY



**Place of Birth and Gender of the Foreign Born Population**



### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The foreign born population migrate to the United States from every part of the globe. Some come in pursuit of education, some for economic opportunities, and others because of political unrest in their home countries. Men come more predominantly from some countries, while more women come from others. Some immigrants came before 1980, some during the 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, or more recently since 2010. The longer the immigrants are here the more they are influenced by the cultures around them -- often changing and adapting to their new surroundings. Looking at the chart above and the table below, do you have more recent immigrants or those who have been here a long time? Are there more men or women?

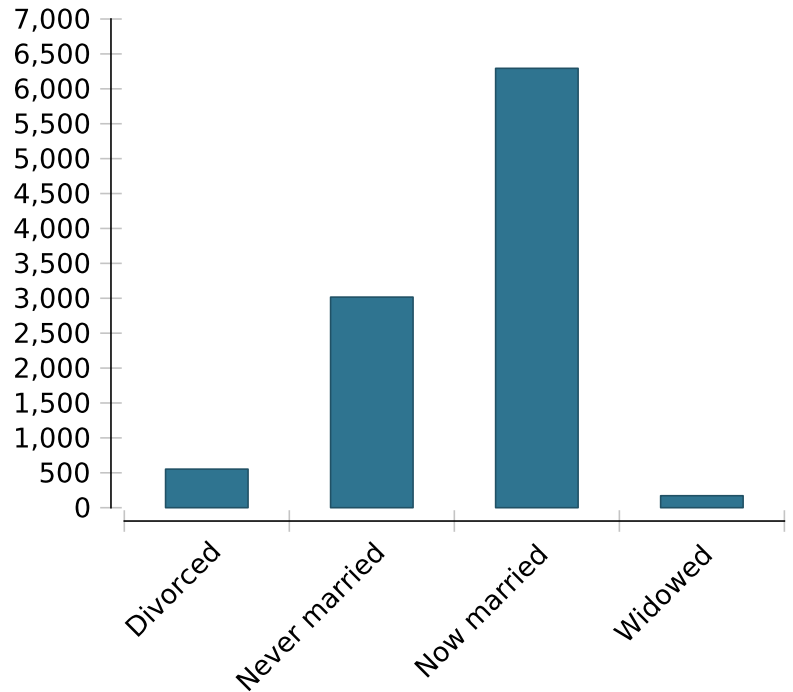
Region	Entered before 1980	Entered 1980 to 1989	Entered 1990 to 1999	Entered 2000 or later	Total Foreign Born
Asia	605	484	810	1,007	2,906
Caribbean	71	51	38	137	297
Europe	315	85	166	378	944
Mexico	131	328	1,677	2,811	4,947
Other Central America	24	133	115	455	727
Other areas	125	60	251	193	629
South America	65	44	116	594	819

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## MARITAL STATUS BY RACE/ETHNICITY & FOREIGN BORN STATUS



**Marital Status of the Foreign Born Population**



### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Great differences in marital status exists between the racial/ethnic groups and the foreign born populations. The chart above and the table below are based on the number of men and women ages 16+ in this county who are either divorced, never married, widowed, or now married. The chart above reflects all of the foreign born population. The table below includes everyone over age 16 by race/ethnicity category. The White NH refers to Non-Hispanic Whites. You may want to consider:

1. How does the non-married marital status affect the family structure of racial, ethnic and foreign-born groups?
2. What cultural similarities and differences are there among the families of the racial, ethnic and foreign-born groups?

Race/Ethnicity	Never married	Now married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
ASIAN	703	1,908	180	70	2,861
BLACK	6,004	7,134	1,642	563	15,343
HISPANIC	2,678	4,097	316	62	7,153
ISLANDER	0	0	0	0	0
MULTI-RACE	546	522	73	24	1,165
NATIVE	71	234	118	27	450
WHITE NH	25,459	78,691	13,047	6,626	123,823
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,461</b>	<b>92,586</b>	<b>15,376</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>150,795</b>

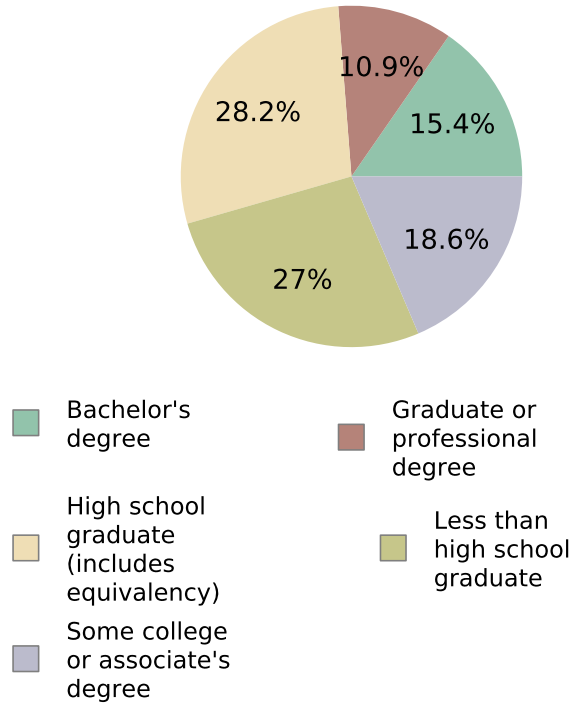


# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## EDUCATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY & FOREIGN BORN STATUS



**Education of the Foreign Born Population**



### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Educational achievement differs among the racial, ethnic and foreign-born groups in the county. The pie chart above gives a glimpse into the different educational levels of the foreign born age 25 and over. The table below indicates the level of educational achievement among the racial/ethnic groups. As you review the information you may want to consider:

1. What educational differences are there between the different racial/ethnic groups?
2. How do the educational differences impact missional approaches to evangelism and discipleship?

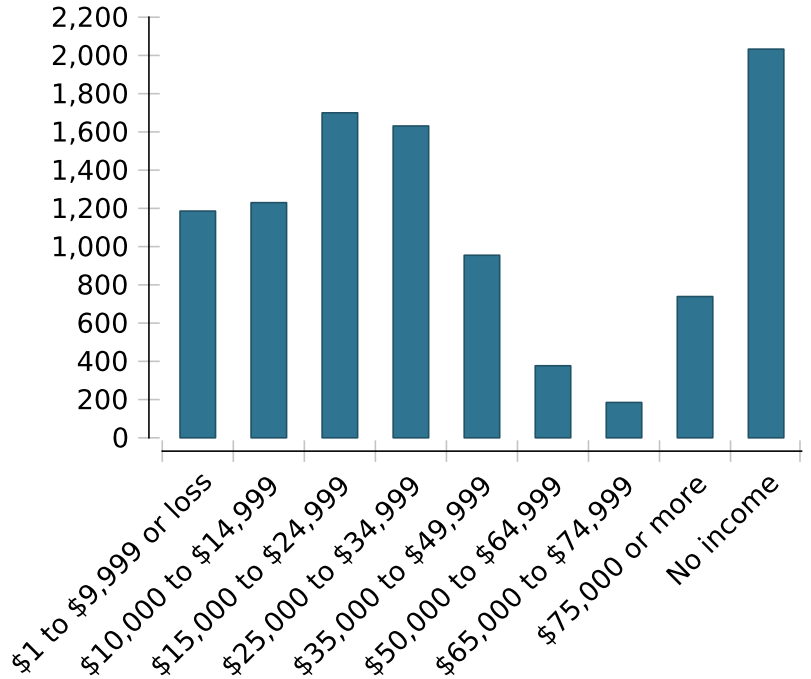
Race/Ethnicity	Less than high school diploma	High school graduate, GED, or alternative	Some college or associate's degree	Bachelor's degree or higher
ASIAN	316	403	458	1,271
BLACK	1,394	2,731	3,870	4,345
HISPANIC	1,904	1,895	929	659
ISLANDER	0	0	0	0
MULTI-RACE	101	183	272	348
NATIVE	114	55	111	74
WHITE NH	7,202	23,191	31,526	44,430
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,031</b>	<b>28,458</b>	<b>37,166</b>	<b>51,127</b>

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY RACE/ETHNICITY & FOREIGN BORN STATUS



**Household Income of the Foreign Born Population**



### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The variation of household income among the racial, ethnic and foreign-born populations impacts the culture that each group develops. Economic differences among the foreign-born population may be seen in the bar chart above. The table below distributes the racial & ethnic population among several income bands. As you review this information you may want to consider:








1. What income levels are reflected among the foreign-born population in the county?
2. Which racial/ethnic groups have significant population among the low income and lower middle income bands?
3. Reflect on the ministries in your county -- how effective are they in reaching the low income and the high income groups?

Household Income	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	ISLANDER	MULTI-RACE	NATIVE	WHITE NH
\$1 to \$14,999	100	832	230	0	19	18	3,452
\$15,000 to \$24,999	17	887	514	0	55	34	4,258
\$25,000 to \$34,999	124	758	332	0	66	11	4,878
\$35,000 to \$49,999	174	1,478	334	0	150	24	7,207
\$50,000 to \$59,999	51	629	338	0	102	51	4,365
\$60,000 to \$74,999	143	767	255	0	92	37	6,488
\$75,000 to \$99,999	38	1,161	319	0	36	24	9,107
\$100,000 to \$124,999	158	635	155	0	63	7	7,136
\$125,000 or more	355	693	150	0	82	18	13,304

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## RECENT & ANCESTRAL COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR THE NATIVE AND FOREIGN BORN POPULATION

### TOP FOREIGN BORN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Rank	Country of Origin (Foreign Born)	Population
1	 Mexico	4,947
2	 India	644
3	 Vietnam	493
4	 Japan	460
5	 El Salvador	442
6	 Philippines	315
7	 Kenya	275
8	 Korea	224
9	 Canada	224
10	 England	189

### TOP NATIVE ANCESTRIES OF ORIGIN

Rank	Ancestry of Origin (Native Born)	Population
1	 Other groups	61,619
2	 English	30,761
3	 Irish	26,156
4	 American	21,753
5	 German	20,649
6	 Italian	8,584
7	 Scotch-Irish	7,491
8	 Scottish	5,831
9	 French (except Basque)	5,260
10	 Polish	3,059

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Above are two lists that present information on the origins of the population in the county. The list on the left lists the top countries of origin among the foreign born population. The list on the right lists the top ancestral countries of origin for the native population. Predominant countries of origin may indicate the cultural heritage that continues to shape the cultural values, cultural practices and spiritual issues among the population. As you review these two lists you may want to consider:

1. What are dominant countries of origin for the foreign-born and the native-born? Are they from the same world region or do they differ greatly? How does this similarity or difference affect the development of culturally-appropriate ministries?
2. What are the top countries of origin for the foreign-born? Do these share the same language or are they different?
3. As you reflect on ministries in the county that are ministering to the foreign-born groups, how effective are they? Are there some groups that are underserved or underreached?

# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

## TOP NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES SPOKEN

### ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Below is a table that lists the top non-English languages that are spoken in the county and how well these groups speak English. The census data on language spoken at home were derived from questions that indicated whether the household sometimes or always spoke a language other than English at home. In households where one or more people spoke a language other than English, the household language assigned to all household members was the non-English language spoken by the householder, parent or other adult with a non-English language. Government agencies use information on language spoken at home for their programs that serve the needs of the foreign-born and specifically those who have difficulty with English.

Language spoken at home appears to indicate the primary "first" language of the family. Missiologists (ministry people who study the mission of the church) view this language as the "heart language" of the people group. "Heart language" refers to the language that a person is born hearing and first learns to speak. This is the language with which the person is most comfortable and at ease. Missionaries should always attempt to communicate Biblical truths in the heart language of the people being reached. As you consider the following table, you may want to consider:

1. How well do each of the groups speak English? Is there a need for teaching English as a Second Language?
2. Are there existing ministries reaching each of the language groups represented in the county?



Language	Speak Other Lang: English Not Well	Speak Other Lang: English Well	Population
Spanish or Spanish Creole	5,044	4,090	9,134
Vietnamese	301	505	806
German	65	394	459
Japanese	309	108	417
French (incl. Patois, Cajun)	54	305	359
Gujarati	137	195	332
Hindi	26	263	289
African languages	0	269	269
Tagalog	42	171	213
Chinese	101	105	206
Arabic	9	163	172
Korean	94	48	142



# Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama

© Copyright 2014 by the Intercultural Institute for Contextual Ministry  
All Rights Reserved.

## CITATION INFORMATION:

Watke, Curt. Ethnoscape County Profile for Shelby, Alabama. (North Augusta, SC: Intercultural Institute for Contextual Ministry, 2014).

## Data Sources:

Ethnoscape Data, © Slavnik Labs (and licensed by the Intercultural Institute for Contextual Ministry).  
American Community Survey, Census Bureau, US Department of Commerce  
Photo Credits: Thinkstock, PhotoDisc

## Map Sources:

Map Data: © OpenStreetMap contributors  
GIS Processing: Slavnik Labs

The Intercultural Institute for Contextual Ministry, Inc. is a leading evangelical "think tank" dedicated to the application of missiological concepts in the communication of the gospel and the development of congregations through research of cultural, intercultural, cross-cultural, and multicultural groups, population segments, and social environments servicing congregations, denominational groups, mission agencies and parachurch organizations in North America and beyond. The IICM is a non-profit, 501(C)3 tax exempt organization; which means we voluntarily submit to governance by an active board of directors and stringent standards of accountability.

---

## Intercultural Institute for Contextual Ministry

Dr. Curt Watke, PhD, Executive Director & Director for Missional Research & Training

Dr. Rodney Webb, DMin, Associate Director for Contextual Ministries

Dr. Eduardo Docampo, DMin, Associate Director for Intercultural Ministries