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Immigrant Communities of Philadelphia: Spatial Patterns and Revitalization

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Vietnamese Speakers

From the previous page, we saw that Vietnamese are the third largest language group in Philadelphia and they have the highest rate of low-English proficiency. This map plots the number of Vietnamese speakers, as indicated by the size of the circle, and the proportion of those people who speak English well (blue), and those who speak English poorly (orange). Although there were 135 census tracts that had Vietnamese speakers, I chose to map only those tracts that had 40 or more Vietnamese-speaking residents. On average, 69% of Vietnamese speakers state they have trouble speaking English. The areas with the greatest need appear to be the Lower Northeast, South Philadelphia, and Southwest Philadelphia. You can also see that there are several areas that are entirely blue (these residents speak Vietnamese as their primary language at home but also speak English proficiently). Several of these tracts are in West Philadelphia and are likely due to the universities in that area (University of Pennsylvania, University of the Sciences, and Drexel University) each of which draw international students.

Source: 2013 ACS 5 Year Estimate