

Welcome Indigenous Languages

“To meet this sudden requirement, we had to put forth a major recruitment effort to rapidly grow the pool of indigenous linguists,” said Irene Agnew. “We have now become known as “experts” in these languages, with other translation companies asking us to collaborate with them in translation into by Mixtec or Zapotec,” said Agnew.

Publicized in the article published in the Los Angeles Times the existence of the indigenous population in the Los Angeles County surprised many of us. But, as recent data shows, there are as many as 1.25 million Indigenous Latin American immigrants in the U.S. For example, a recent collaboration between Comunidades Indigenas en Liderazgo (CIELO)- (Indigenous Communities in Leadership) and the University of California, Los Angeles created a map showing the density of the ingenious population.

Please click this link [interactive map](#) to see the article and the map depicting the locale density of Indigenous speakers by zip code based on recipients of COVID-relief vaccinations. The range of 30 Aztec and Mayan-based dialects mapped includes Zapotec, Chinantec, K'iche', Ayuujk, Purepecha, Amuzgos, Q'anjob'al, Mam, and more.

“Working with Zapotec, Mixtec and Purepecha speakers was a real challenge due to the many dialects that exist,” said Nick Sabbatella, production manager.” “Once we narrowed down as to which dialect/s was spoken in L.A. County, we recorded the scripts in that dialect, since with some of the dialects no written version existed,” said Sabbatella.

As always Agnew will continue to keep you abreast of all the linguistic, cultural, and political changes that affect our industry and share these with you. We look forward to working with you for the rest of 2021 and beyond. Please contact us via email address i.agnew@agnew.com with any questions, comments, or other issues we can address.

Wishing you good health from Irene Agnew and the Agnew team!