

## MISSION

The Mission of Durham County Library's Hispanic Services Program is to inform the Latino community about the Library, to make Spanish speakers feel welcome in the Library, and to offer resources to meet the needs of this rapidly growing population.

## GOALS

To accomplish its mission, the Hispanic Services Committee established the following goals:

- Latino library patrons will encounter a library system that is increasingly bilingual and bicultural in its communications, its programs, and its collection.
- Latino residents will meet and get to know Durham County Library staff and volunteers at locations throughout the Latino community.
- Latino parents will discover information and programs needed to be more fully involved in their children's education at the Library and at El Centro Hispano.
- Spanish speaking residents of all ages will learn skills needed to be computer literate.

## PROGRAMS

The program's lofty goals can only be reached by the Library's efforts to cross cultural and language barriers to reach out to and welcome in Hispanic members of our community. **To that end, the Hispanic Services Program now provides:**

- An Hispanic Services Coordinator;
- English for Speakers of Other Languages classes at the Main Library and at the Parkwood branch;
- An expanded Spanish-language collection, featuring well-known Latino authors, children's literature, Spanish-language reference materials, and audiovisual materials;
- Spanish-language computers/keyboards and software;
- Free online courses in Spanish through the *Centro Comunitario de Aprendizaje* (Community Learning Center), a partnership between the Library, UNC-Chapel Hill's Institute for International Understanding, and *Technologico de Monterrey*, a prestigious Mexican university;
- Bi-lingual Story Times;
- *La Bibliotequita* (Tiny Library) at El Centro;
- Spanish-language Library forms and publicity;
- Library staff who are more culturally sensitive, including some who have taken advantage of Spanish-language continuing education opportunities;
- Computer instruction/course in partnership with IBM's Diversity Volunteers; and
- Holiday celebrations at the Library, including family programs for *Día de Los Niños/Day of the Children*, *Las Posadas*, and *Cinco de Mayo*.

## DURHAM COUNTY LATINO POPULATION

U.S. Census Data

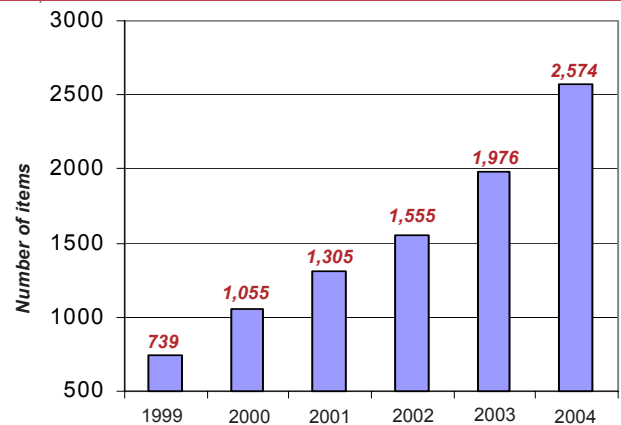
1990	2,054	730%↑
2000	17,039	

## NC LATINO POPULATION

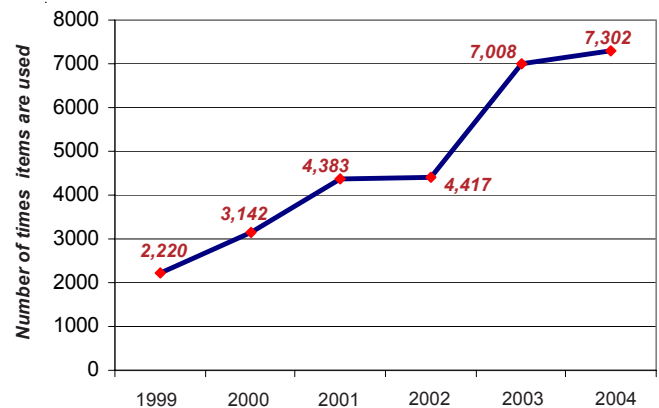
U.S. Census Predictions

2000	110,000	91%↑
2025	210,000	

## SPANISH-LANGUAGE COLLECTION



## CIRCULATION OF SPANISH & BILINGUAL MATERIALS



## SPANISH-LANGUAGE COMPUTER USE

Hispanic Services Program Statistics

2003	625	300%↑
2004	2,500	

## SUMMARY

The Library is an essential resource for empowering Latinos through access to information that will help them reach their full academic, personal and professional potential.