



ACTIVITY #1 - The Melting Pot Overflows: The Census and Cigar City

Lesson Essential Question: How does the census help us understand the immigrant population of Tampa?

Objective: Students will examine census data to understand the growth of Ybor City and West Tampa's population of different immigrant groups. Students will interpret their data by creating a graph.

Materials:

- Image of Vicente Martinez Ybor Ybor
 - Images of Ybor City at the turn of the century
 - Cigar City Census Table, Graph worksheet
 - Teacher background information on the census
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1. Review the definition of the word immigration. Tell about the immigrants who came to Tampa. Use photos and their surroundings to show students what life was like in 1900 in Tampa. Explain that Vincente Ybor led a movement to bring immigrants to a neighborhood named for him. Show the students the image of Ybor.

2. Ask students if they were born in another country. Follow the flow of this conversation with students looking for countries, and languages spoken at home.

3. Explain that students will work to determine who lived in Tampa 100 years ago.

4. Explain that before the Ybor City immigrants came to Tampa, 790 people lived in Tampa. Relationship to the size of their school? Explain that the 790 number comes from a census. Simply describe the census process.

5. Have students download the Cigar City Census Table. Using the table, students will create a bar graph on the Graph Worksheet that shows each immigrant group's population. Explain how graphs can help us to interpret data in a visual way.

6. Discuss with students:

- Who was the largest group of immigrants?
- What language was spoken most often in Ybor City?
- Who will be the largest group of people in the 1910 census?



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Teacher Background Information: Cigar City Census

Cigar City Census Reference—Teacher Background Reading

1900 Census from www.Ancestry.com/1900census

The 1900 census was begun on June 1, 1900. The enumeration was to be completed within thirty days, or two weeks for communities with populations of more than ten thousand.

Anyone conducting family history research for people alive on June 1, 1900 will find that the 1900 census is among the most valuable of all the U.S. Census ever taken. This is especially true since the destruction of the 1890 census in a fire leaves many genealogists with a 20-year gap during a period of heavy immigration. The U.S. population according to the 1900 census was 76,212,168.

Questions Asked for the 1900 Census

- The 1900 census schedules provide the name of each person in the household,
- Address,
- Relationship to the head of the household,
- Color or race,
- Sex,
- Month and year of birth,
- Age at last birthday,
- Marital status; the number of years married,
- The total number of children born of the mother,
- The number of those children living,
- Places of birth of each individual and the parents of each individual.
- If the individual was foreign born
- The year of immigration and the number of years in the United States
- Citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one
- Occupation
- Whether the person could read, write, and speak English
- Whether the home was owned or rented
- Whether the home was on a farm and whether the home was mortgaged





Vicente Martinez Ybor - Tampa Bay History Center

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Ybor City, 7th Avenue, 1919 - Tampa Bay History Center



Cigar Factories- Tampa Bay History Center

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Casitas - Tampa Bay History Center



Immigrant Cigar Workers - Tampa Bay History Center

The Melting Pot Overflows: The Census and Cigar City*continued***Cigar City Census Table**

Cigar City includes the communities of West Tampa and Ybor City

1880 – 1920: Cubans, Spaniards, Italians, US Citizens, and Other Immigrants

	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920
Cubans			4,354	6,317	4,703
Spaniards			1,068	3,489	3,613
Italians			1,440	3,708	3,546
US Citizens <i>this number includes the children of the immigrants</i>			2,842	10,484	16,423
Other Immigrants Living in Cigar City			100	148	200
Total Immigrants			9,704	23,990	28,285
Other Tampa Neighborhoods			14,382	30,884	39,739
Total Tampa and Cigar City	5,841*	14,941**	24,086	58,874	68,024

*This number represents everyone living in Hillsborough County in 1880, including the area that is now Pinellas County.

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Graph Worksheet

Using your Census Table, create a bar graph below that shows each immigrant group’s population. Choose a color to represent each group and create bars for their correct population each census year.

Cigar City Census Compilation
 (Cuban, Spanish, Italian, US Citizens and Other Immigrants)

