

Spanish Translation for Health and Resilience Research: A Partnership between the Translational Health Research Center & Department of World Languages

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Why include translation in your research design?

The demographics of Texas reflect a need for Spanish translation to increase the impact of research conducted at TXST.

- In Texas, Hispanic communities total 39.4% of the population (Data USA: Texas).
- In Hays County, Hispanic communities total 39.5% of the population (Data USA: Texas).
- Spanish is the most common non-English language in Texas, with 28.8% active speakers. (Data USA: Texas).
- 35.1% of Texas households use a language other than English as their primary language at home (Data USA: Texas).
- 8 out of 10 Hispanic consumers need to verbally translate content for a family member (*ThinkNow and 9thWonder*, 2020).

Researchers who seek funding from the **National Institutes of Health** should be aware of the agency requirement to provide individuals with limited English proficiency meaningful access to NIH-conducted and funded programs, services, and activities. (NIH, 2014).

What can happen when translation is an afterthought?

LOCAL

'This might be life or death': How Austin officials failed to notify residents of ice storm danger

Caroline Ghisolfi and Tony Plohetski Austin American-Statesman
Published 7:00 a.m. CT Feb. 19, 2023 | Updated 1:37 p.m. CT Feb. 20, 2023

"...city messaging...was entirely or largely inaccessible to Austin's nearly 100,000 non-English speakers...a handful in nearly 100 city tweets were translated into Spanish...[and] none...communicated essential information about the storm or ongoing outages" (Ghisolfi and Plohetski, 2023).

LOCAL

Uvalde families deserve the Texas House Committee report in Spanish. Here it is.

Manny Garcia Austin American-Statesman
Published 9:36 a.m. CT July 20, 2022 | Updated 3:10 p.m. CT Jan. 9, 2023

"We view this as a public service for the Uvalde families...where most residents are Latino and many are more comfortable reading in Spanish. According to the most recent Census Bureau data, half of Uvalde County residents age 5 or older speak a language other than English at home" (Garcia 2023).

Translation Services Pilot: Data Science Pathways

Data Science Pathways (DSP) is sponsored by the Translational Health Research Center and was initiated with funding from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Through certification and credentialing, the program 1) addresses a need for workers in the Texas Innovation Corridor who have data analytics competencies and credentials, and 2) provides access to analytical and data literacy education to Texans regardless of undergraduate degree or preparation.

In Fall 2022, DSP principal investigator and THRC Faculty Fellow, Dr. Francis Méndez, collaborated with THRC and World Languages to begin translating DSP learning modules into Spanish.

The idea to translate DSP into Spanish grew from observing the increasing national need for workers who have expertise in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science and the increasing population in Texas of people whose first language is Spanish and who are in the process of becoming bilingual.

Under the supervision of Dr. David Navarro, a Spanish MA student translated almost 90 instructional videos for DSP.

Translation continues this spring with the aim to complete all DSP introductory modules for dissemination to Spanish-speaking and bilingual students and workers in Texas.



Data Science Pathways
on the **Zeus** platform

TEXAS STATE
WORLD LANGUAGES
AND LITERATURES

Contact THRC for Spanish translation services!

THRC is developing a translation services program with the Department of World Languages to give students applied experience in Spanish translation for health and resilience research at TXST.

Students lead translation efforts under supervision of World Languages faculty, ensuring quality and accuracy of translated materials.

EMAIL US TO LEARN MORE!

Why human translation (HT) instead of machine translation (MT)?

- HT ensures **culturally competent word usage**, especially for sensitive or complex topics.
- HT is critical for words or phrases that have **no direct equivalent** when translating between languages.
- MT can translate complex sentences but doesn't consider preceding or subsequent text (Kenny, 2022).
- HT offers **cohesion and coherence** (Moorkens et al., 2018; Rabadán & Fernández Nistal, 2002).

Involving students in translation extends the broader impact of your research by training the next generation of professional translators.

