Using the NYC Civic Engagement Commission's "Community Language Profiles" Map Tool

- How are LEP and CVALEP populations defined?
  - **LEP means "Limited in English Proficiency"**
    - The American Community Survey (administered by the census) asks if any language other than English is spoken at home. If the respondent responds with yes, they are then asked to indicate how well they speak English: *"Very Well", "Well", "Not Well"* or *"Not At All"*. Respondents who respond with an answer below *"Very Well"* (i.e. *"Well", "Not well"* or *"Not At All"*) are considered to be Limited in English Proficiency (LEP).
  - **CVALEP means "Citizens of Voting Age who are Limited in English Proficiency"**
    - The CVALEP is a subset of the LEP population. It captures the number of residents that are considered LEP that are also citizens of voting age.

- How do I browse the information in the map pane?
  - **Start with the layer selector**
    - Begin browsing the information captured within the map by enabling a layer using the 'Layer Selector Tool' in the top right corner of the map pane. This will display tiles or boundaries (based on your selection). Information about each Community District is displayed upon clicking on a tile of interest. *Note that LEP and CVALEP information is contained only within the Community Districts layers, whereas layers of City Council Districts and Zip Code Tabulation Area are meant to be overlaid on Community Districts.*
  - **A 'tile' for every Community District**
    - The information displayed for each Community District contains data on the estimated number of LEP and CVALEP speakers, along with the five languages with the highest number of speakers for each group.
    - The data originates from the American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) 2015-2019 Data. This information is provided at the "Public Use Microdata Area" (or PUMA) geography by the Census Bureau, which closely approximates to NYC Community Districts.

- How do I browse the tables of data on the right side of the map?
  - Alongside the map pane, there are also data tables that display information about each Community District. These tables can be accessed, filtered or sorted, and even downloaded by clicking the headers that contain the word 'Table' above this information pane.
    - **Table 1: "LEP & CVALEP by CD"**
      - This table contains 59 rows, one for each Community District in New York City. Each row includes columns that provide the areas a community district covers, the population estimated by the 2010 Decennial Census, the estimate of LEP & CVALEP populations

present in that community district, as well as the proportion of the total LEP population those communities cover.

- ■ **Table 2: "LEP & CVALEP Languages by CD"**
    - This table contains 2,290 rows, one for each of the languages spoken across all 59 community districts in NYC. Columns include the estimated number of speakers within each community district of that language, for both LEP and CVALEP populations.

- **An example use case**: I am a member of a community board that is interested in understanding the community in which I live (Brooklyn Community District 10). I want to know which areas of the city fall within my district, which proportion of the population is limited English proficient, as well as which of those residents are citizens of voting age. Lastly, I wish to know what the top **five** languages are spoken at home are for those that are citizens of voting age, so I can plan for localized outreach materials during elections.

To find this information, I will use the CEC's "Community Language Profiles" tool.

Step 1: I load the Community Language Profiles tool in my web browser.

Step 2: Using the "layer selector", located in the top right-hand corner of the map pane, I select the checkbox next to "Percent LEP by CD". The shades of the tiles will now be colored by the percentage of LEP residents within each district.

Step 3: I then zoom and scroll the map to a Community District of my home, in this case Brooklyn 10, which is located in the southwestern corner of Brooklyn. Clicking on the 'tile', a popup featuring information on language profiles is now displayed on the screen.

This popup tells me that in 2010, there were just under 125,000 New Yorkers in Brooklyn 10. I can also see that 25% (just over 31,000) people are limited in English proficiency. Also interesting is that 13% (~16,000) of the Community District's residents are not only limited in English proficiency, but are also citizens of voting age. I can see how my Community compares to others in the city on the basis of CVALEP residents by unselecting "Percent LEP by CD" and choosing "Percent CVALEP by CD".

Another feature in the popup is a breakdown of the top five most common languages spoken at home by the CVALEP community in my district. This information lets me know that the residents of Brooklyn 10 most commonly speak Chinese, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Italian.