



2021

Report on the Status of Bilingual- Bicultural Education Programs in Wisconsin

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Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

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**Report on the Status of Bilingual–Bicultural
Education Programs in Wisconsin,
Chapter 115, Subchapter VII,
§ 115.996, Wis. Stats.**

**Prepared by the Bilingual/EL Education Program
Department of Public Instruction**



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Report on the Status of Bilingual–Bicultural Education Programs in Wisconsin

Background

Under Wis. Stats. sec. 115.996, the state superintendent is required to report to the legislature on the status of bilingual-bicultural education programs funded under this authority. This report provides the specific information required by law for the 2020-21 school year (paid in FY22). Wisconsin school district personnel view Chapter 115, Subchapter VII, Wisconsin Statutes, as vital. It provides partial yet critical funding for student populations whose language education needs must be served.

Languages and Program Locations

In the 2020-21 school year, there were 362 public school districts in Wisconsin that had English learners, totalling 49,528 English learners. Fifty school districts applied to receive state bilingual-bicultural categorical aid. This equates to 27,129 English learners, or 54.1 percent of all English learners in the state, being served in districts that were partially reimbursed by the state. Twelve languages are supported by the state bilingual-bicultural aid program: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Hmong, Karen languages, Korean, Mandingo, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, and Telugu.

The number of English learners used in this report is drawn from WISEdata and the ACCESS for ELLs assessment, which is the state’s annual English language proficiency assessment that meets criteria under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It should be noted this report will use the term English learner (EL) rather than Limited English Proficient student, which follows the precedent set by the reauthorization of ESEA, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, in using this terminology. The table on the following page includes information on the number of EL students identified, the number of EL students served in state-reimbursed programs, and the number of state-reimbursed programs serving EL students.

2020-21: Languages and Program Locations	
Number of EL students identified	49,528
Number of EL students served in state-reimbursed programs	27,129
Number of state-reimbursed programs:	50
Districts: Abbotsford, Appleton, Baraboo, Barron, Beloit, Clinton Community, Darlington, DC Everest, Delavan-Darien, Eau Claire, Edgerton, Elk Mound, Elkhorn, Fond du Lac, Franklin, Green Bay, Holmen, Howard-Suamico, Janesville, Kenosha, Kewaunee, LaCrosse, Lake Geneva Joint 1 and Lake Geneva-Genoa City UHS, Luxemburg-Casco, Madison, Manitowoc, Marshall, Menasha, Menomonie, Middleton-Cross Plains, Milwaukee, New London, Onalaska, Oregon, Oshkosh, Racine, Reedsburg, Rice Lake, Sauk Prairie, Sheboygan, Stevens Point, Verona, Walworth J1, Waterloo, Waukesha, Wausau, Whitewater, Wisconsin Dells, and Wisconsin Rapids	

Program Costs for Categorically Aided District Programs

Originally, the appropriation from the state legislature was divided evenly among districts so that each received the same percentage of reimbursement for its approved expenditures. In 1999, Wisconsin Act 9 (the biennial budget) set aside \$250,000 from the bilingual-bicultural appropriation. This set-aside was to be divided proportionally among school districts whose enrollments in the previous school year were at least 15 percent English learners and participated in the bilingual-bicultural aid program. The remainder of the appropriation was divided evenly among all the districts according to their approved total budgets. The same formula continues through the current fiscal year. Nine districts were eligible for this set-aside for 2020-21: Abbotsford, Beloit, Darlington, Delavan-Darien, Green Bay, Madison Metropolitan, Sheboygan, Walworth, and Waterloo.

Program costs vary from district to district due to several factors, including, but not limited to, the following factors:

- Number of students served;
- Base cost for a language program;
- Variety of languages spoken by students and families in a district;
- English-language proficiency level of students and range of proficiency levels among students in a classroom or in a school;
- Amount of previous schooling of English learners;
- Staff/student ratio;
- Amount of instructional contact time;
- Instructional resources provided (e.g., texts, equipment, technology, native language materials/assessments);
- Type of program, such as in-class vs. pull-out programs, or self-contained (e.g., two-way dual language); and
- Outreach and services to EL students and families, immigrant children and youth, or refugee status of students and families.

A salient point is that although a school district may have English learners and a bilingual program, not all English learners in a school district are necessarily in that bilingual program model. This could be for several possible reasons: the bilingual program model may be targeted at K-3 students; there could be a bilingual program for one language group in a district but not for other languages; or if an EL is older, the student's schedule (in middle or high school) can be prohibitive to providing bilingual support at the cost of providing content instruction. The following data tables demonstrate the costs for educating ELs in bilingual programs and the current reimbursement rates FY 22.

2020-21 Program Costs for Categorically Aided District Programs		
Average approved cost/EL student		\$3,906.45
Average state reimbursement/EL student (without set-aside)		\$307.41
Average state reimbursement/EL student (with set-aside)		\$316.63
Number of state-reimbursed programs		50
Percentage of Reimbursement to Categorically Aided District Programs Paid in FY22		
Percent of reimbursement to all aided districts except those receiving set-aside	Formula = $\frac{\$8,589,800 - 250,000}{105,978.069}$	7.86936%
Districts receiving set-aside (EL enrollments of at least 15% of their student enrollment receive a percentage of the set-aside of \$250,000)	Abbotsford, Beloit, Darlington, Delavan-Darien, Green Bay, Madison, Sheboygan, Walworth, and Waterloo	

Historical Profile: Fully English Proficient Students

The following statistics trace the history of bilingual education in Wisconsin from the last 20 years. This data includes the number of students served in programs receiving categorical aid and numbers of students from these programs who became fully English proficient during the school year. Both the total number of eligible students and the number of districts eligible for bilingual-bicultural categorical aid have grown significantly in the subsequent years. However, reimbursement is at a significantly lower percentage of approved costs.

Historical Demographic Data

School Year	Number of Districts Reporting EL Students	Number of EL Students Reported	Number of Aided Districts	Number of EL Students in Aided Programs Reclassified as Fully English Proficient	Number of Eligible EL Students Served	Number of Non-Aided Districts	"Balance" of EL Students ¹
2020-21	362	49,528 ⁷	50	204 ⁸	27,129	312	22,399
2019-20	361	50,853	51	1,748	29,321	310	22,385
2018-19	365 ⁶	51,706	53	1,588	27,532	321	24,293
2017-18	361	52,446	53	1,308	27,961	308	24,485
2016-17	357	49,670	52	496 ²	26,721	305	22,949
2015-16	355	48,405	51	2,336	25,692	304	22,713
2014-15	356	49,309	50	2,031	24,998	306	24,311
2013-14 ³	351	49,560	51	2,319	23,716	300	25,844
2012-13	355	50,052	52	2,910	26,426	303	23,626
2011-12	354	51,727	59	2,627	27,220	295	24,507
2010-11	352	51,944 ⁴	58	1,846	28,086	294	23,858
2009-10	361	52,100	55	1,860	26,954	306	25,146
2008-09	358	51,772	56	1,401	27,663	302	24,109
2007-08	328	45,651	54	1,415	27,031	274	18,620
2006-07	289	40,752	52	644	26,331	237	14,421
2005-06	183	33,402 ⁵	51	641	25,081	132	8,321
2004-05	267	39,255	49	1,921	24,672	218	14,583
2003-04	247	35,602	49	1,443	22,311	189	13,291
2002-03	211	34,199	43	1,076	22,136	168	12,063
2001-02	199	32,588	45	1,406	22,016	154	10,572

¹ Data regarding the types of services received, if any, are not collected for "non-eligible" LEP students; most of these students are being served in English as a Second Language programs.

² This number is low compared to previous years due to the new standard setting on the ACCESS test.

³ Beginning with the March 2011 census and subsequent years through the 2014 Census, different business rules were established resulting in totals that differ from previous school years' data. The data in the shaded cells might differ if compared to an earlier report.

⁴ Beginning with the March 2011 census, data sources differ from previous years and numbers for PK students identified as EL are again included. The change has caused an apparent drop in the number of ELs though that drop is more than likely due to the changes in data sources.

⁵ This count appears low because it does not include most LEP migrant students or LEP students in PK.

⁶ This number was updated 11/18/2020 from 374 to 365

⁷ The number of EL Students reported is likely lower for this reporting year, due to the use of a remote screener as part of the process to identify students and data submission challenges during the COVID19 pandemic.

⁸ This number is low due to limited numbers of districts ability to administer the ACCESS test during the COVID19 pandemic.

Data Displays

Statewide data from school districts receiving categorical aid for the 2020-21 school year is presented on the following pages:

TABLE NO.	TITLE
Table 1	2020-21 Bilingual-Bicultural Education: Students Served by Language
Table 2	2020-21 Bilingual-Bicultural Education: Student Participation by Language
Table 3	2020-21 Bilingual-Bicultural Education: District Costs/Reimbursement Report

If additional information regarding any aspect of this report is needed, please contact Amy Maciolek, Multilingual Learners and Title III Consultant, at amy.maciolek@dpi.wi.gov.

**LEP Bilingual-Bicultural End of Year Report
School Year: 2020-2021**

Table 1 Students Served by Language

Languages Served	Grade Group PK-03	Grade Group 04-08	Grade Group 9-12	Language Totals
Arabic	99	43	0	142
Burmese	242	413	0	655
Chinese	44	20	0	64
Hmong, Mong	2,391	1,888	827	5,106
Karen Languages	127	160	0	287
Korean	17	0	0	17
Mandingo	10	0	20	30
Nepali	10	20	20	50
Somali	99	66	271	436
Spanish, Castilian	7,511	7,696	5,015	20,222
Swahili	33	71	0	104
Telugu	16	0	0	16
State Totals:	10,599	10,377	6,153	27,129

Table 2 Student Participation by District Language

District/Language	Languages	Eligible LEP Students
School District of Abbotsford	Spanish, Castilian	317
Appleton Area School District	Hmong, Mong Spanish, Castilian	555 54
Baraboo School District	Spanish, Castilian	19
Barron Area School District	Somali Spanish, Castilian	116 22
Beloit Public Schools	Spanish, Castilian	1048
Clinton Community School District	Spanish, Castilian	83
DC Everest Area School District	Hmong, Mong Spanish, Castilian	325 44
Darlington Community School District	Spanish, Castilian	186
Delavan-Darien School District	Spanish, Castilian	428
Eau Claire Area School District	Hmong, Mong Spanish, Castilian	217 19
Edgerton School District	Spanish, Castilian	53
Elk Mound Area School District	Hmong, Mong	11
Elkhorn Area School District	Spanish, Castilian	162
Fond du Lac School District	Hmong, Mong	48
Franklin Public School District	Arabic	56
Green Bay Area Public School District	Hmong, Mong Somali Spanish, Castilian	284 176 1822
Holmen School District	Hmong, Mong	92
Howard-Suamico School District	Hmong, Mong Spanish, Castilian	14 18
Janesville School District	Spanish, Castilian	160
Kenosha School District	Spanish, Castilian	197
Kewaunee School District	Spanish, Castilian	46
La Crosse School District	Hmong, Mong	354
Lake Geneva J1 School District	Spanish, Castilian	153
Lake Geneva-Genoa City UHS School District	Spanish, Castilian	38
Luxemburg-Casco School District	Spanish, Castilian	51
Madison Metropolitan School District	Arabic Chinese Hmong, Mong Korean Mandingo Nepali Spanish, Castilian Telugu	71 64 309 17 30 50 3619 16
Manitowoc School District	Hmong, Mong Spanish, Castilian	182 226
Marshall School District	Spanish, Castilian	137

District/Language	Languages	Eligible LEP Students
Menasha Joint School District	Hmong, Mong	55
	Spanish, Castilian	385
Menomonie Area School District	Hmong, Mong	109
Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District	Spanish, Castilian	212
Milwaukee Public School District	Burmese	655
	Hmong, Mong	325
	Karen Languages	287
	Somali	144
	Spanish, Castilian	5505
	Swahili	104
New London School District	Spanish, Castilian	104
Onalaska School District	Hmong, Mong	167
Oregon School District	Spanish, Castilian	37
Oshkosh Area School District	Arabic	15
	Hmong, Mong	217
Racine Unified School District	Spanish, Castilian	1973
Reedsburg School District	Spanish, Castilian	21
Rice Lake Area School District	Spanish, Castilian	19
Sauk Prairie School District	Spanish, Castilian	156
Sheboygan Area School District	Hmong, Mong	834
	Spanish, Castilian	348
Stevens Point Area Public School District	Hmong, Mong	175
Verona Area School District	Spanish, Castilian	412
Walworth J1 School District	Spanish, Castilian	13
Waterloo School District	Spanish, Castilian	174
Waukesha School District	Spanish, Castilian	1676
Wausau School District	Hmong, Mong	753
	Spanish, Castilian	15
Whitewater Unified School District	Spanish, Castilian	248
Wisconsin Dells School District	Spanish, Castilian	22
Wisconsin Rapids School District	Hmong, Mong	80
	Total:	27,129

Table 3 District Costs/Reimbursement Report

District/Language	Wages and Other approved Costs	Reimbursements	Approved Costs/ Eligible LEP Students	Reimbursement per Eligible LEP Students
School District of Abbotsford	\$382,342	\$35,885	\$1,206	\$113
Appleton Area School District	\$5,222,436	\$410,972	\$8,575	\$675
Baraboo School District	\$111,667	\$8,788	\$5,877	\$463
Barron Area School District	\$541,430	\$42,607	\$3,923	\$309
Beloit Public Schools	\$3,504,021	\$294,542	\$3,344	\$281
Clinton Community SD	\$170,794	\$13,440	\$2,058	\$162
DC Everest Area School District	\$63,022	\$63,022	\$171	\$171
Darlington Community SD	\$380,589	\$33,143	\$2,046	\$178
Delavan-Darien School District	\$2,029,490	\$166,988	\$4,742	\$309
Eau Claire Area School District	\$2,465,624	\$194,029	\$10,448	\$822
Edgerton School District	\$76,633	\$6,031	\$1,446	\$114
Elk Mound Area School District	\$84,688	\$6,664	\$7,699	\$606
Elkhorn Area School District	\$425,220	\$33,462	\$2,625	\$207
Fond du Lac School District	\$194,506	\$15,306	\$4,052	\$319
Franklin Public School District	\$145,490	\$11,449	\$2,598	\$204
Green Bay Area Public SD	\$11,675,950	\$994,129	\$5,117	\$436
Holmen School District	\$790,932	\$62,241	\$8,597	\$677
Howard-Suamico School District	\$120,169	\$9,457	\$3,755	\$296
Janesville School District	\$566,951	\$44,615	\$3,543	\$279
Kenosha School District	\$389,090	\$30,619	\$1,975	\$155
Kewaunee School District	\$133,994	\$10,544	\$2,913	\$229
La Crosse School District	\$1,579,490	\$124,296	\$4,462	\$351
Lake Geneva J1 School District & Lake Geneva-Genoa City UHS	\$571,047	\$44,938	\$15,028	\$1183
Luxemburg-Casco School District	\$412,567	\$32,466	\$8,090	\$637
Madison Metropolitan SD	\$22,479,620	\$1,870,634	\$5,383	\$448
Manitowoc School District	\$1,217,958	\$95,846	\$2,985	\$235
Marshall School District	\$193,363	\$15,216	\$1,411	\$111
Menasha Joint School District	\$3,252,695	\$255,966	\$7,392	\$582
Menomonie Area School District	\$326,786	\$25,716	\$2,998	\$236
Middleton-Cross Plains Area SD	\$1,090,464	\$85,813	\$5,144	\$405
Milwaukee Public School District	\$17,895,522	\$1,408,264	\$2,549	\$201
New London School District	\$322,789	\$25,401	\$3,104	\$244
Onalaska School District	\$454,002	\$35,727	\$2,719	\$214
Oregon School District	\$250,904	\$19,745	\$6,781	\$534
Oshkosh Area School District	\$676,721	\$53,254	\$2,917	\$230
Racine Unified School District	\$4,098,861	\$322,554	\$2,077	\$163
Reedsburg School District	\$84,682	\$6,664	\$4,032	\$317
Rice Lake Area School District	\$121,578	\$9,567	\$6,399	\$504
Sauk Prairie School District	\$565,810	\$44,526	\$3,627	\$285

District/Language	Wages and Other approved Costs	Reimbursements	Approved Costs/ Eligible LEP Students	Reimbursement per Eligible LEP Students
Sheboygan Area School District	\$3,791,206	\$332,366	\$3,207	\$281
Stevens Point Area Public SD	\$1,312,335	\$103,272	\$7,499	\$590
Verona Area School District	\$3,031,643	\$238,571	\$7,358	\$579
Walworth J1 School District	\$48,529	\$5,206	\$3,733	\$400
Waterloo School District	\$237,278	\$21,257	\$1,364	\$122
Waukesha School District	\$5,485,694	\$431,689	\$3273	\$258
Wausau School District	\$5,142,079	\$404,649	\$6,695	\$527
Whitewater Unified SD	\$521,906	\$41,071	\$2,104	\$166
Wisconsin Dells School District	\$88,585	\$6,971	\$4,027	\$317
Wisconsin Rapids School District	\$511,086	\$40,219	\$6,389	\$503
Totals:	\$105,240,237	\$8,589,800	\$219,458	\$17,705

Note: Districts that received a percentage of the 250,000 set-aside due to 15% or more are as follows (payments based on expenses + \$250,000 allocation = total reimbursement):

School District of Abbotsford	\$30,088 + 5,797	\$35,885
Beloit Public Schools	\$275,744 + 18,798	\$294,542
Darlington Community School District	\$29,950 + 3,193	\$33,143
Delavan-Darien School District	\$159,708 + \$7,280	\$166,988
Green Bay Area Public School District	\$918,823 + \$75,306	\$994,129
Madison Metropolitan School District	\$1,769,003 + \$101,631	\$1,870,634
Sheboygan Area School District	\$298,344 + \$34,022	\$332,366
Walworth J1 School District	\$3,818 + \$1,388	\$5,206
Waterloo School District	\$18,672 + \$2,585	\$21,257
	Totals:	\$ 3,754,150