

FAST FACTS

Languages Spoken by English Learners (ELs)

Fact

States annually report the five most common languages spoken by ELs and the number of ELs who speak each language. Approximately 50 languages appear in one or more states' top five lists. In SY 2014-15, the most common languages included Spanish/Castilian, Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese, and Haitian/Haitian Creole.

Twenty Most Common EL Languages, as Reported in States' Top Five Lists: SY 2014-15

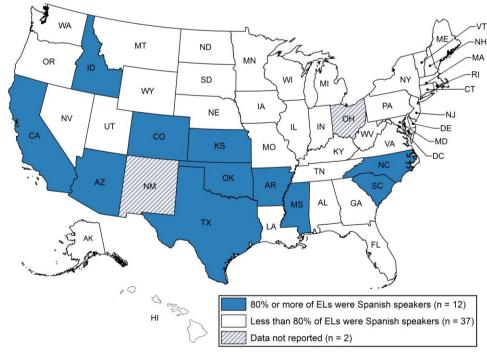
Languages	Reported Number of EL Speakers
1. Spanish/Castilian	3,659,501
2. Chinese	97,117
3. Arabic	96,572
4. Vietnamese	75,529
5. Haitian/Haitian Creole	25,129
6. Somali	22,043
7. Tagalog	21,441
8. Hmong	21,311
9. Portuguese	11,818
10. Russian	11,412
11. Urdu	9,036
12. Bengali	8,505
13. Yupik languages	6,567
14. Polish	6,198
15. Karen languages	5,522
16. Marshallese	3,991
17. Creoles and pidgins, Portuguese-based (Other)	3,779
18. Nepali	3,751
19. Filipino/Pilipino	3,500
20. Burmese	3,452

Note: Figures reflect the combined number of reported speakers of a language in states where that language was one of the state's five most common EL languages. This list includes only those languages for which specified data were listed. "No linguistic content" and "not applicable" entries were not included in the list above. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Consolidated State Performance Reports, SY 2014-15.

States, Including D.C., With 80 Percent or More Spanish-Speaking ELs: SY 2014-15

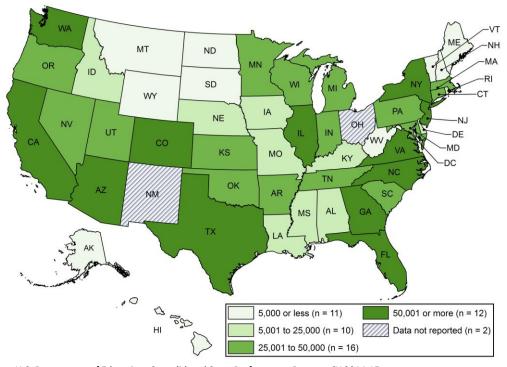
Fact

Eleven states and the District of Columbia reported that 80 percent or more of ELs in the state spoke Spanish in SY 2014-15.



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Consolidated State Performance Reports, SY 2014-15.

Number of Spanish-Speaking ELs, by State, Including D.C.: SY 2014-15



Fact

In SY 2014-15,
Spanish-speaking ELs
were concentrated in
12 states. Five of
these states—
California, Texas,
Florida, New York,
and Illinois—also
reported the highest
numbers of ELs
overall.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Consolidated State Performance Reports, SY 2014-15.



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