The Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) is a biennial survey required by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights since 1968. This survey collects data on key education and civil rights issues in our nation's public schools. Most student data are disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, English learner (EL) status, and disability status.

The CRDC defines gifted and talented programs as those conducted during regular school hours that provide specialized educational opportunities, including accelerated promotion and an enriched curriculum, for students who demonstrate a high degree of mental ability and/or exceptional physical coordination, creativity, interest, or talent.
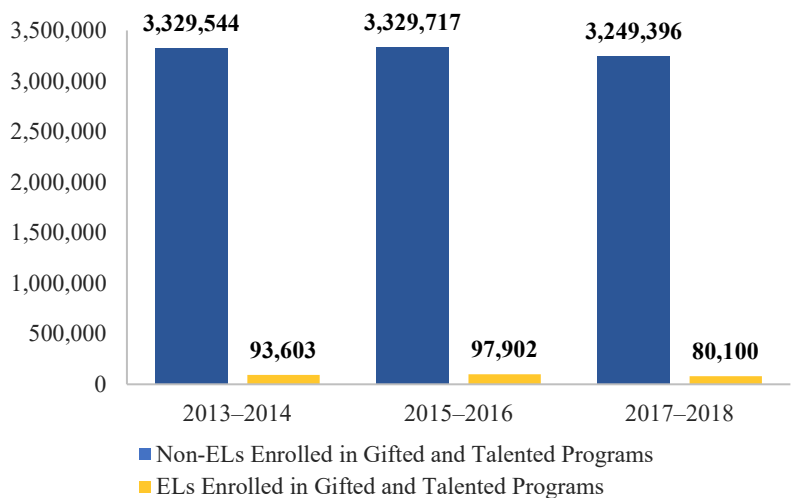
Percentage of English Learners and Non-English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs: School Year 2017–18

- 7.2% — Non-ELs Enrolled in Gifted and Talented Programs
- 1.5% — ELs Enrolled in Gifted and Talented Programs
- 98.5% — ELs not Enrolled in Gifted and Talented Programs
- 92.8% — Non-ELs not Enrolled in Gifted and Talented Programs
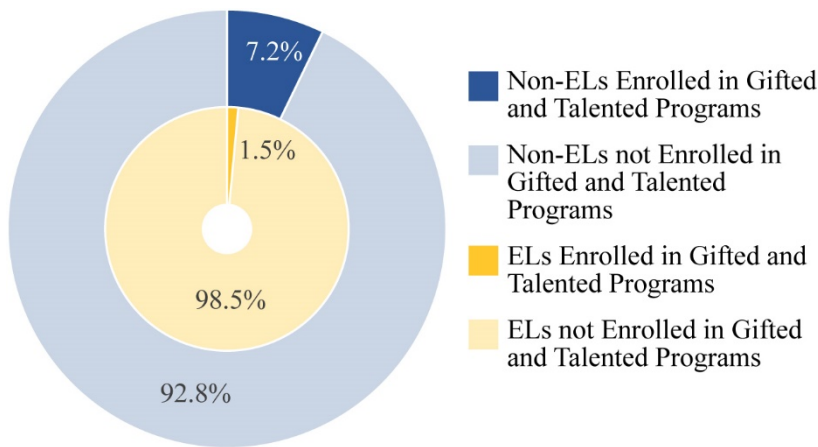
Despite the growing numbers of ELs in the United States, their representation in gifted and talented programming continues to lag behind traditional learner populations. During School Year (SY) 2017–18, out of 5,296,830 identified ELs, 80,100, or 1.5%, were enrolled in gifted and talented programs. In comparison, out of 45,625,459 non-ELs, 3,249,396, or 7.2%, were enrolled in gifted and talented programs. In SY 2017–18, ELs were one-fifth as likely as non-ELs to participate in a gifted and talented program in K–12 schools.[1]

Number of English Learners and Non-English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs: School Years 2013–14 to 2017–18
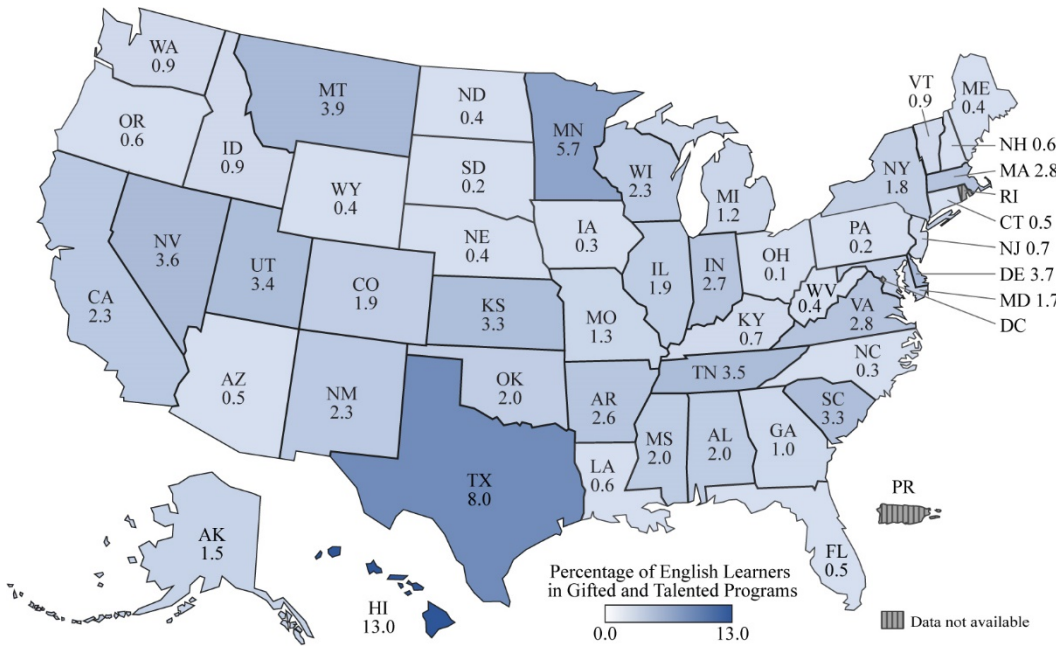
While the enrollment numbers of ELs and non-ELs in gifted and talented programs decreased between SYs 2013–14 and 2017–18, this decrease was proportionally greater for ELs. EL enrollment in gifted and talented programs decreased by 17% between SY 2013–14 and SY 2017–18 whereas non-EL enrollment only decreased by 2%.

School Year	Non-ELs Enrolled	ELs Enrolled
2013–2014	3,329,544	93,603
2015–2016	3,329,717	97,902
2017–2018	3,249,396	80,100

Note: Gifted and talented programs do not include the Advanced Placement (AP) program or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. (2020). Civil Rights Data Collection, 2017–18. Retrieved from https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/data.html

[1] Includes data from 48 states. Data for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Rhode Island were not available in SY 2017–18.

National Percentage of English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs: School Year 2017–18


WA 0.9 · OR 0.6 · ID 0.9 · MT 3.9 · ND 0.4 · MN 5.7 · SD 0.2 · WI 2.3 · MI 1.2 · VT 0.9 · ME 0.4 · NH 0.6 · NY 1.8 · MA 2.8 · RI · CT 0.5 · NJ 0.7 · DE 3.7 · MD 1.7 · DC · WY 0.4 · IA 0.3 · NE 0.4 · IL 1.9 · IN 2.7 · OH 0.1 · PA 0.2 · WV 0.4 · VA 2.8 · NV 3.6 · UT 3.4 · CO 1.9 · KS 3.3 · MO 1.3 · KY 0.7 · NC 0.3 · CA 2.3 · AZ 0.5 · NM 2.3 · OK 2.0 · AR 2.6 · TN 3.5 · SC 3.3 · MS 2.0 · AL 2.0 · GA 1.0 · LA 0.6 · TX 8.0 · PR · AK 1.5 · HI 13.0 · FL 0.5

Percentage of English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs
0.0 — 13.0

Data not available

Twenty-five states[2] have higher enrollment rates of ELs in gifted and talented programs than the national average (1.5%). In SY 2017–18, Hawaii, Texas, and Minnesota had the highest percentage of ELs enrolled in gifted and talented programs (13%, 8%, and 5.7%, respectively). Ohio, South Dakota, and Pennsylvania had the lowest percentage of ELs enrolled in gifted and talented programs (0.1%, 0.2%, and 0.2%, respectively).

Five States With the Highest Percentage of English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs: School Year 2017–18

State	Percentage
Hawaii	13.0
Texas	8.0
Minnesota	5.7
Montana	3.9
Delaware	3.7
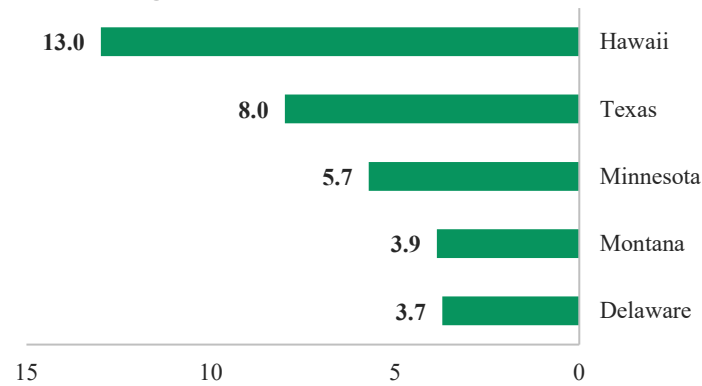
Five States With the Lowest Percentage of English Learners in Gifted and Talented Programs: School Year 2017–18

State	Percentage
Iowa	0.3
North Carolina	0.3
Pennsylvania	0.2
South Dakota	0.2
Ohio	0.1
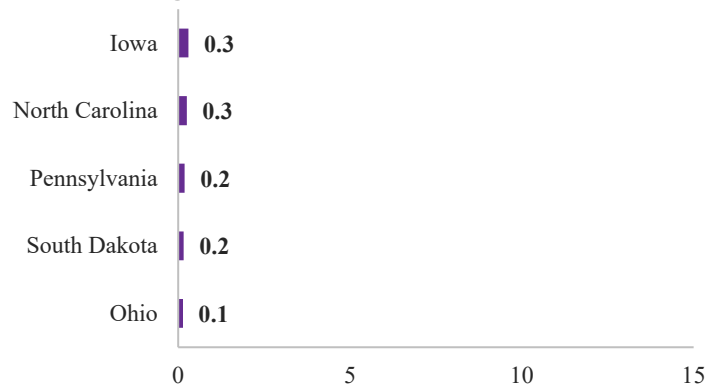
The states with the highest percentage of identified ELs are not always the same states with the highest percentage of ELs enrolled in gifted and talented programs. In the states that reported data,[2] Hawaii ranks first in the percentage of ELs enrolled in gifted and talented programs but only 39th in the percentage of identified ELs. Similarly, North Carolina ranks 44th in the percentage of ELs enrolled in gifted and talented programs but 9th in the percentage of identified ELs.

Note: Gifted and talented programs do not include the Advanced Placement (AP) program or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights. (2020). *Civil Rights Data Collection, 2017–18*. Retrieved from https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/data.html

[2] Includes data from 48 states. Data for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Rhode Island were not available in SY 2017–18.