



December 21, 2021

Ted Blazel
Wisconsin Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street
Room 401
Madison, WI 53703

Julie Martyn
Wisconsin Assembly Journal Clerk
Wisconsin Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street
Room 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Chief Clerk Blazel and Journal Clerk Martyn:

In accordance with Wis. Stat. § 115.996, the Department of Public Instruction submits this report relating to the status of bilingual-bicultural education programs. The report provides data for the time period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

This report presents details on the state's administration and funding of bilingual education in Wisconsin, including the following:

- the number of pupils served in bilingual-bicultural education programs for each language group by school district;
- the cost of the program per pupil for each school district; and
- the number of pupils in each school district and language group who, as a result of participation in a bilingual-bicultural education program, improved their English language ability and no longer need program services.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Amy Maciolek, Multilingual Learners and Title III Consultant, at amy.maciolek@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 266-1570.

Sincerely,

Erin K. Fath

Erin K. Fath, Director
Policy, Budget, and Research Team

EKF: jdm



2021

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

December, 2021

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**



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

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DECEMBER 2021
Wisconsin 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 |