

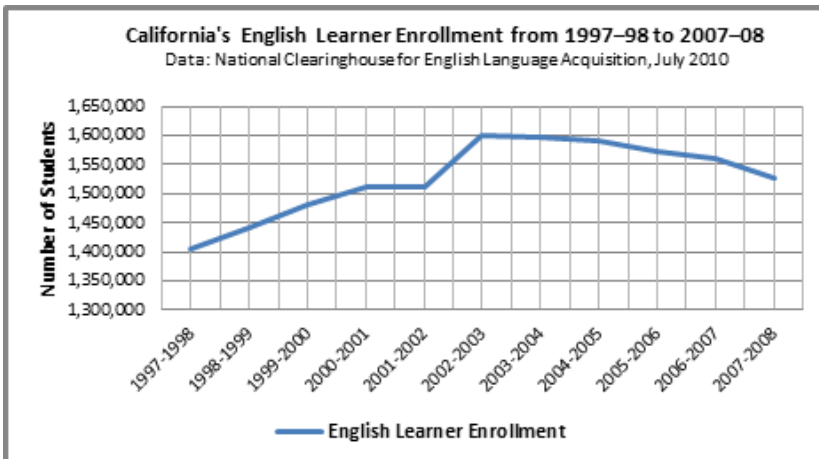
STATE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS



California adopted the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and math into its K-12 Content Standards in 2010 and will begin classroom implementation in the 2014–15 school year.¹ In 2014, California adopted the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), which encompasses Smarter Balanced, California Standards tests (CST) for Science, the California Modified Assessment (CMA) for Science, and the California Alternative Performance Assessment (CAPA) for Science, math and English language arts.²

ENGLISH LEARNER POPULATION

Between 1997–98 and 2007–08, California’s reported student enrollment of English learner students increased by **about 8.5 percent** but the state showed a decrease in enrollment starting in the early 2000s, according to the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (NCELA).³ However, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) reports show that from 2002–06 to 2009–10, enrollment rates have slightly increased, from 25.7% in 2002–03 28.9 to 2010–11.⁴



ASSESSMENTS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

California Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Results for 2013, the California Standards tests (CST) showed that¹⁸:

- The percentage of fourth-grade English learners that met standards in English-language Arts was 13%.
- The percentage of eighth-grade English learners that were proficient in math was 18%.

2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)^{19 20}:

- In California, 5% of fourth-grade English learners performed at or above proficient in reading. That number was 7% nationally.
- In California, 33% of fourth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in reading. That number was 35% nationally.
- In California, 2% of eighth-grade English learners performed at or above proficient in math. That number was 5% nationally.
- In California, 30% of eighth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in math. That number was 35% nationally.

California-reported adjusted cohort on-time graduation rates were²¹:

- In 2010–11, 60% for English learners and 76% for all students.
- In 2011–12, 62% for English learners and 78% for all students.

In 2010–11, NCES reported that English learners accounted for **28.9 percent** of a total California K-12 public school student population of about 6.3 million.⁵ For 2009–10, California state assessments reported 1,467,989 English learner students, **85 percent of whom spoke Spanish as their primary language**. Less than 2.5 percent each of English learners spoke Vietnamese, Chinese, Tagalog, and Hmong. California Dept. of Education reports that for spring 2013, English learners from 59 language groups constituted 21.6 percent of total enrollment in California public schools. 43.1 percent of total public school students spoke a language other than English at home. 72 percent of English learners are enrolled in K-6.⁷

ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAMS

California school districts provide **language instruction educational programs (LIEPs)** that are English-only or that use both English and another language. English-only LIEPs include structured English immersion, sheltered English

instruction, specially designed academic instruction in English (SDAIE), content-based English as a second language (ESL), and pull-out ESL programs. Other LIEPs consist of two-way immersion, transitional bilingual, dual language, developmental bilingual and heritage language programs.⁸ California’s English language development (ELD) instruction puts students into three programs: (1) structured English immersion (SEI) for those who have not yet acquired reasonable fluency in English, (2) English Language Mainstream (ELM) for those who have acquired reasonable fluency in English, and (3) Alternative Program (Alt) for those whose parents submit a parental exception waiver.⁹

HIGHLIGHTS OF STATE POLICY

- Within its Content Standards, California developed “English Language Development (ELD) Standards” for K-12 English learners. In November 2012, the California State Board of Education adopted the ELD Standards for each grade from K-8, in addition to 9-10, and 10-12.¹⁰
- School districts define “reasonable fluency in English.”¹¹

HIGHLIGHTS OF FEDERAL LAW AND PROGRAMS

- California as a state submitted an application for an **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility waiver** (though not the formal ESEA flexibility package) on June 15, 2012,¹² but was denied on January 4, 2013.¹³ However, a group of eight California school districts known as CORE submitted a formal ESEA flexibility request on February 28, 2013¹⁴ and was approved on August 6, 2013.¹⁵ This waiver is valid through the 2013-2014 school year and Sacramento Unified has indicated that they will not be reapplying for the waiver.¹⁶
- California has received a **\$75 million for Race to the Top—Early Learning Challenge** grant to implement a four-year plan ending in December 2015. Its goal is to increase the number of low-income and disadvantaged children enrolled in high-quality early learning programs, develop a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), promote early learning and development outcomes, and measure outcomes and progress.¹⁷
 - o California is addressing four reform areas: developing high quality, accountable programs; promoting early learning development outcomes for children; developing a Great Early Childhood Education Workforce; and measuring outcomes and progress.
 - o 77 percent of the grant money is being spent in 16 counties in their local school districts.
 - o In addition, three California districts won RTT-Local Educational Agency funding in December 2012.¹⁸

1 Note: only eight of the ten total CORE Districts applied for the waiver including: Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento City, San Francisco, Sanger and Santa Ana Unified School Districts. Clovis and Garden Grove did not apply.

1 California Dept. of Education (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/index.asp>

2 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/>

3 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed Apr. 2014) http://www.nclca.us/files/uploads/20/California_G_0708.pdf

4 National Center for Education Statistics (accessed Apr. 2014) http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_047.asp

5 National Center for Education Statistics (accessed Apr. 2014) http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_037.asp

6 U.S. Dept. of Education, “Consolidated State Performance Report: School Year 2009-10 - California,” April 2011, page 48

7 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/cefelfacts.asp>

8 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed Apr. 2014) http://www.nclca.us/files/uploads/3/Biennial_Report_0810.pdf, page 47

9 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/cefelfacts.asp>

10 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/eldstandards.asp>

11 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/cefelfacts.asp>

12 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/el/yr12ltr0615.asp>

13 California Dept. of ED (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.cep-dc.org/documents/StateWaivers/CaliforniaNCLBwaiverletter.pdf>

14 California Office to Reform Education (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://coredistricts.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/CORE-ESEA-Flexibility-Request.pdf>

15 California Office to Reform Education (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://coredistricts.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Sec-Duncan-approval-letters-to-Districts.pdf>

16 EdSource “Sacramento City Unified won’t renew No Child Left Behind waiver” (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://edsources.org/2014/sacramento-city-unified-wont-renew-no-child-left-behind-waiver/60860#.U0whDOZdVUM>

17 Children Now (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://www.childrennow.org/uploads/documents/CRTTT-ELC.pdf>

18 EdSource (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://edsources.org/2012/three-california-districts-win-in-federal-race-to-the-top-competition/24081#.UzsUt9VdVCM>

19 2013 STAR Test Results (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://star.cde.ca.gov/star2013/Index.aspx>

20 The Nation’s Report Card: Mathematics 2011 (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2011/2012458.pdf> *As of April 2014, 2013 NAEP data for English learners was not available.*

21 The Nation’s Report Card: Reading 2011 (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2011/2012457.pdf> *As of April 2014, 2013 NAEP data for English learners was not available.*

22 ED Data Express (accessed Apr. 2014) <http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/state-report.cfm/tab/sd/state/CA/>