

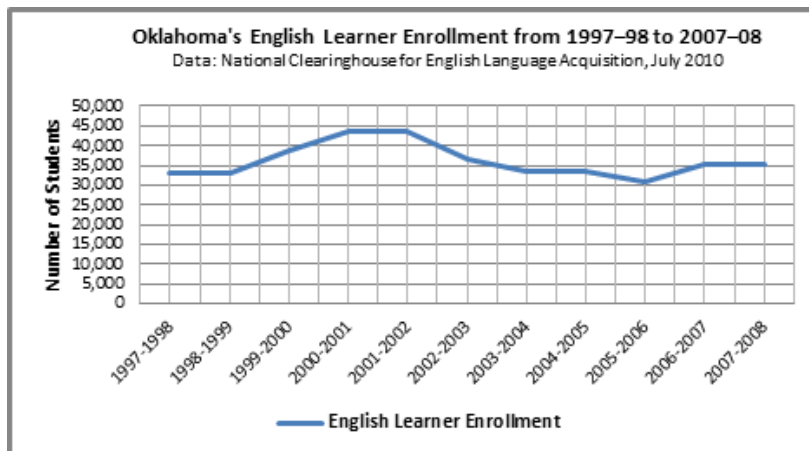
# STATE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS



Oklahoma adopted the Common Core in 2010 and will begin classroom implementation in the 2014–15 school year; its state standards, the Oklahoma Academic Standards, are intended to prepare students for college, career and citizenship.<sup>1</sup> The Oklahoma Department of Education has completed plans to implement teacher professional development, curriculum guides and instructional materials, and teacher-evaluation systems aligned with the Common Core standards.<sup>2</sup>

## ENGLISH LEARNER POPULATION

Between 1997–98 and 2007–08, Oklahoma’s reported student enrollment of English learner students increased by as much as 32 percent before gradually decreasing, according to the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (NCELA).<sup>3</sup> National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) reports show that from 2005–06 to 2010–11, **Oklahoma’s English learner enrollment oscillated between 13,000 and over 30,000 students before leveling out at between 34,000 and 36,000 students in recent years.**<sup>4</sup>



In 2010–11, English learners accounted for **6.3 percent** of a total K-12 public school student population of about 660,000. For 2009–10, Oklahoma state assessments reported 85,410 English learners students, **82 percent of whom spoke Spanish as their primary language**. Less than 4 percent each of English learner spoke Cherokee, Vietnamese, Hmong and Chinese.<sup>5</sup>

## ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAMS

Oklahoma school districts provide several **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, content-based English as a second language (ESL), and pull-out ESL programs. Other LIEPs consist of transitional bilingual, dual-language, developmental and heritage language programs.<sup>6</sup> Oklahoma uses the World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) English Language Proficiency Standards.<sup>7</sup>

## ASSESSMENTS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

### Oklahoma State Assessments for 2012–13<sup>17, 18</sup>:

- The percentage of fourth-grade English learners that met standards in reading was 31%.
- The percentage of eighth-grade English learners that met standards in math was 38%.

### 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)<sup>19, 20</sup>:

- In Oklahoma, 7% of fourth-grade English learners performed at or above proficient in reading. That number was 7% nationally.
- In Oklahoma, 28% of fourth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in reading. That number was 35% nationally.
- In Oklahoma, 4% of eighth-grade English learners performed at or above proficient in math. That number was 5% nationally.
- In Oklahoma, 28% of eighth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in math. That number was 35% nationally.

**Oklahoma did not report adjusted cohort on-time graduation rates for 2010-11.**<sup>21</sup>

## HIGHLIGHTS OF STATE POLICY

- Oklahoma has Home Language Surveys (to screen for potential English learners) in English, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese.<sup>8</sup>
- In July 2013, Oklahoma, which was previously a governing state of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness in College and Career (PARCC), withdrew from the consortium, citing issues with technological, time and cost demands.<sup>9</sup>
- In March 2014, the Oklahoma senate education committee voted to end the state's participation in the Common Core and allow Oklahomans to create new English language arts and math standards. Proponents and opponents of the Common Core are still debating the role of the standards in state education standards.<sup>10</sup>

## HIGHLIGHTS OF FEDERAL LAW AND PROGRAMS

- Oklahoma was conditionally approved in February 2012 for an **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility waiver**.<sup>11</sup> The conditional status was lifted on August 2012.<sup>12</sup> Under its waiver plan, Oklahoma indicated that each English Learner student would have a Language Instruction Educational Plan (LIEP)<sup>13</sup> completed by ELS specialist and content area teacher(s) in all Priority Schools, Focus Schools, and Targeted Intervention Schools.<sup>13</sup>
  - Oklahoma created a lowest twenty-fifth percentile subgroup that accounts for 17% of A-F School Grading System under the waiver plan.<sup>14</sup>
  - The plan also sets objectives for traditional ESEA subgroups (N=25) including “all students” and “all and each of following: English learners, IEP, regular education students, Black, American Indian, Hispanic, Asian, White, economically disadvantaged,” which are linked to the grading system, giving schools a “+” or “-” on their grade.<sup>15</sup>
- Oklahoma submitted applications but placed 34th and 20th respectively in Rounds 1 and 2 of the **Race to the Top (RTT) grant competition**.<sup>16</sup>

1 Oklahoma Dept. of Education (accessed March 2014) <http://ok.gov/sde/oklahoma-academic-standards>

2 Education First and Editorial Projects in Education (accessed March 2014) [http://www.edweek.org/media/movingforward\\_ef\\_epe\\_020413.pdf](http://www.edweek.org/media/movingforward_ef_epe_020413.pdf)

3 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed March 2014) [http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/20/Oklahoma\\_G\\_0708.pdf](http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/20/Oklahoma_G_0708.pdf)

4 National Center for Education Statistics (accessed March 2014) [http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12\\_047.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_047.asp)

5 U.S. Department of Education, “Consolidated State Performance Report: School Year 2009-10 - Oklahoma,” Feb. 2011, page 48

6 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed March 2014) [http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/3/Biennial\\_Report\\_0810.pdf](http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/3/Biennial_Report_0810.pdf)

7 WIDA (accessed March 2014) <http://www.wida.us/membership/states/Oklahoma.aspx>

8 Oklahoma Department of ED (accessed March 2014) <http://ok.gov/sde/title-iii>

9 Education Week (accessed March 2014) [http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2013/07/oklahoma\\_to\\_quit\\_common-core\\_testing\\_consortium.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2013/07/oklahoma_to_quit_common-core_testing_consortium.html)

10 KFOTV (accessed April 2014) <http://kfor.com/2014/04/01/controversial-bill-dealing-with-common-core-passes-oklahoma-senate/>

11 U.S. Department of Education (accessed March 2014) <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/esea-flexibility/map/ok.html>

12 U.S. Department of Education (accessed April 2014) Letter to Superintendent Barresi dated August 16, 2012. <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/sec-retary-letters/ok-amendment.pdf>

13 U.S. Department of Education ESEA Flexibility Request Amended July 27, 2012 (accessed March 2014) [http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/ap-proved-requests/de\\_request\\_amend\\_102512.doc](http://www2.ed.gov/policy/eseaflex/ap-proved-requests/de_request_amend_102512.doc) page 26

14 Ibid. page 34

15 Ibid. page 40

16 U.S. Department of Education (accessed March 2014) <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/phase1-applications/score-summary.pdf> and <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/phase2-applications/summary.pdf>

17 ED Data Express (accessed March 2014) <http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/data-element-explorer.cfm/tab/data/deid/3861/>

18 ED Data Express: Oklahoma (accessed March 2014) <http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/state-report.cfm/tab/sd/state/OK/>

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

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

21 ED Data Express: Oklahoma (accessed March 2014) <http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/state-report.cfm/tab/sd/state/OK/>