

STATE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

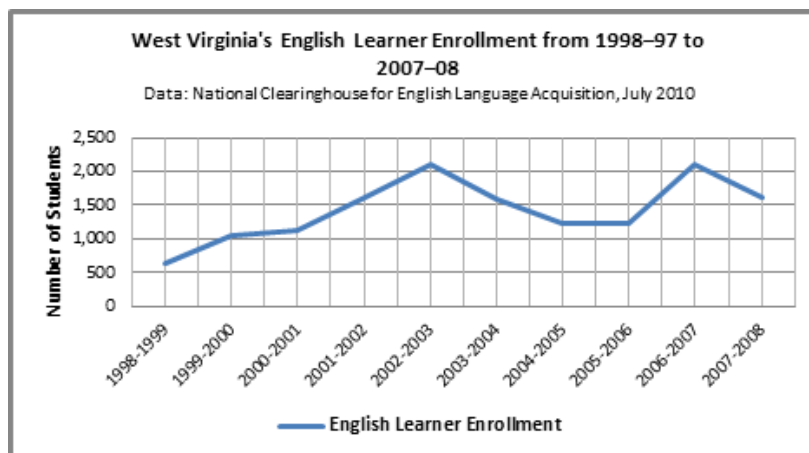
WEST VIRGINIA



West Virginia adopted the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and mathematics in 2010 and will begin classroom implementation in the 2014–15 school year. In addition, the state also uses the West Virginia’s 21st Century Curriculum Standards and Objectives; the majority of these Content Standards and Objectives went into effect in the 2007–08 school year.¹ The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) has completed plans to implement teacher professional development, curriculum guides and instructional materials, and teacher-evaluation systems that are aligned with the Common Core Standards.² The state uses Acuity and West Virginia Educational Standards Test (WESTEST) 2 as assessments.³

ENGLISH LEARNER POPULATION

Between 1997–98 and 2007–08, West Virginia’s reported student enrollment of English learner students increased by **over 153 percent**, but also showed much fluctuation between years, according to the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (NCELA).⁴ Data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) from 2005–06 to 2010–11 also demonstrate English learner enrollment fluctuations.⁵



ASSESSMENTS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

West Virginia State Assessments for 2011–12^{14 15:}

- The percentage of fourth-grade English learners that met standards in reading was 36%.
- The percentage of eighth-grade English learners that were proficient in math was 31%.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) did not report 2011 fourth grade reading scores nor eighth grade math scores for English learners for West Virginia.^{16 17}

- In West Virginia, 27% of fourth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in reading. That number was 35% nationally.
- In West Virginia, 21% of eighth-grade non-English learners performed at or above proficient in math. That number was 35% nationally.

West Virginia-reported adjusted cohort on-time graduation rates were^{18:}

- In 2010–11, 84% for English learners and 78% for all students.
- In 2011–12, 83% for English learners and 79% for all students.

In 2010–11, English learners accounted for **0.6 percent** of a total K-12 public school student population of about 283,000.⁶ For 2009–10, West Virginia state assessments reported 1,560 English learner students, **51.8 percent of whom spoke Spanish as their primary language**. Other English learners spoke Chinese (10.7 percent), Arabic (7.6 percent), Vietnamese (4.4 percent) and other languages (12.2 percent).⁷

ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAMS

West Virginia school districts have provided two types of language instruction educational programs (LIEPs): sheltered English instruction and content-based ESL.⁸

HIGHLIGHTS OF STATE POLICY

- West Virginia’s Connections Department focuses on English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, cultural exchanges and multicultural education.⁹
- To screen for English learner students, West Virginia uses the **Woodcock-Munoz Language Survey (WMLS)**.¹⁰
 - County school districts use the West Virginia Test of English Language Learning (WESTELL) to annually assess English learners’ English language proficiency.
 - All public school students who are identified as English learners must participate in the West Virginia Measures of Academic Progress (WVMAP).
- West Virginia is a member of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.¹¹

HIGHLIGHTS OF FEDERAL LAW AND PROGRAMS

- West Virginia was approved in 2013 for an **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility waiver**. Under its waiver plan, WVDE indicated that WVDE, Regional Education Service Agency (RESA), and LEA staff would provide targeted technical assistance and job-embedded professional development based on any subgroup-specific needs, with a focus on students with disabilities and English learners. This assistance and professional development was to be provided for Focus schools or for any case where a school does not meet the WVAI targets and/or subgroup-specific proficiency-based AMOs.¹²
- West Virginia placed 36th in the **Race to the Top grant competition** Round 1 and did not apply in Round 2.¹³

1 West Virginia Dept. of Education (accessed March 2014) <http://wvde.state.wv.us/educatewv/pdf/Global21-CSOs.pdf>

2 Education First and Editorial Projects in Education (accessed Mar. 2014) http://www.edweek.org/media/movingforward_ef_epe_020413.pdf

3 West Virginia Dept. of ED (accessed March 2014) http://wvde.state.wv.us/oa/westest_index.html

4 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed March 2014) http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/20/West_Virginia_G_0708.pdf

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

6 NCELA (accessed March 2014) http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d12/tables/dt12_047.asp

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

8 National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition (accessed March 2014) http://www.ncele.us/files/uploads/3/Biennial_Report_0810.pdf

9 West Virginia Connections (accessed March 2014) <http://wvconnections.k12.wv.us/assessment.html>

10 Ibid.

11 Smarter Balanced (accessed March 2014) <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/about/member-states/>

12 U.S. Department of Education State of West Virginia ESEA Flexibility Request (accessed March 2014) <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/esea-flexibility/map/wv.html> page 104 and 129

13 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>

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

15 ED Data Express (accessed March 2014) <http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/state-report.cfm/state/WV/>

16 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.

17 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.

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