

English Language Learners in California Schools

Some facts and figures about English Language Learners (ELLs) in California during the 2006-7 school year:

More than 300 languages are spoken in the homes of students in California K-12 schools.

- ❖ The percentage of K-12 students who were ELLs was 12.1% in the state as a whole. In each county, this percentage ranged from a low of 7.2% (Siskiyou) to a high of 17.2% (Mariposa).
- ❖ Spanish was by far the number one native language spoken by ELLs in California K-12 schools, ranging from 65% of the ELLs in CSHA District 2 to 95% of the ELLs in District 10.
- ❖ All of the languages which were the second most common native language spoken by ELLs in each district are from Asia - Cantonese, Filipino (Pilipino or Tagalog), Hmong, Korean, and Vietnamese.

In the state as a whole, the top five languages spoken by ELLs were:

1. Spanish (85.3%)
2. Vietnamese (2.2%)
3. Filipino (Pilipino or Tagalog) (1.4%)
4. Cantonese (1.4%)
5. Hmong (1.3%)