Profiles of English Learners (ELs)

Fact

In SY 2014–15, there were 4,806,662 ELs in the United States, comprising 9.6 percent of all students in grades K through 12.

Percentage of Total School Population, Grades K through 12, Represented by ELs, by State, Including DC: SY 2014–15

Percentage Change in EL Population, by State, Including DC:
SYs 2009-10 to 2014-15

Fact

Between SYs 2009–10 and 2014–15, EL population increased by over 40 percent in Louisiana (42.7%), Wyoming (48.1%), Rhode Island (48.8%), Mississippi (50.6%), and West Virginia (83.5%).

Sources:
Fact
In SY 2014–15, 93.5 percent of ELs participated in Title III-funded programs. In four states (Hawaii, Iowa, Maryland, and South Carolina*), 100 percent of ELs participated in Title III-funded programs.

Percentage of Total Population of ELs Participating in Title III-Funded Language Instruction Education Programs, by State, Including DC: SY 2014–15

*South Carolina reported more students served than identified as ELs.

Fact
In SY 2014–15, approximately 24.6 percent of ELs who were enrolled in elementary or secondary schools and who participated in the annual state English language proficiency assessment attained proficiency.

Percentage of ELs Who Attained Proficiency in English, by State, Including DC: SY 2014–15

Note: States may use different assessments, procedures, and criteria to determine English language proficiency, therefore, comparing data across states may not be appropriate.