

Fast Facts on English Learners: 2019-2020

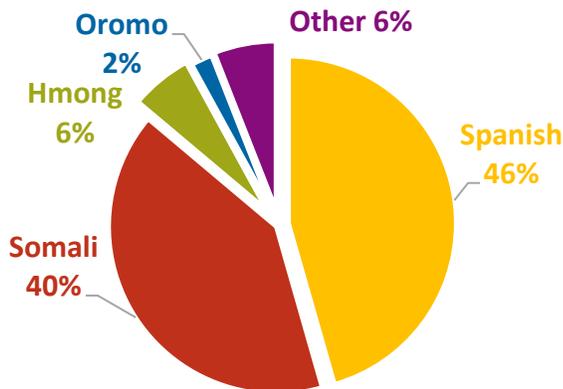
Who are our English Learners?

As of spring 2019, there are roughly **34,000** K-12 students enrolled in Minneapolis Public Schools. Of those students:

- Around **10,600**, or **31%** of all MPS students, speak a language other than English.
- Around **7,000** of those students, or **20%** of all MPS students, currently qualify for **English Learner services**.
- The remaining students who don't qualify for English Learner services include around **3%** of all MPS students who were already proficient in English when they enrolled, and **7%** who previously received English Learner services but were exited from services upon achieving proficiency.

What languages do MPS English Learners speak?

As of 2019, there are nearly **90 different languages** spoken by students in Minneapolis Public Schools. **Spanish, Somali, Hmong, and Oromo** are the four languages most spoken by English Learners. Other languages include Amharic, French, Arabic, Vietnamese, Laotian, and many others.



How long have MPS English Learners lived in the US?

While some of our English Learners have only recently arrived to the US, others have been here for several years and many were born here. Of the 7,000 students who qualify for English Learner services:

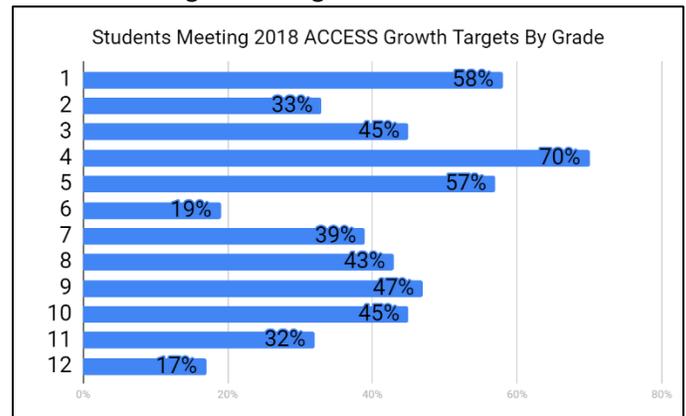
- Around **6%** are newcomers who have been in the US for less than one year

- Around **25%** have lived in the US for between one and five years
- Around **69%** have lived here for more than five years, or were born in the US.

How are MPS English Learners doing?

MPS assesses English Learners' language growth each year with the WIDA ACCESS test, which measures English language proficiency on a scale of 1.0 to 6.0.

Every year, each student is given an individual target for how much growth they are expected to make on the ACCESS test. A student's target is determined based on their age, length of time receiving EL services, and their English proficiency level when they began school in MPS. The chart below shows the percent of students in each grade who met or exceeded their growth target in 2018. On average, 44% of MPS students met their growth target compared to 49% of students state-wide who met their growth target.



From 2013 to 2018, the 4-year graduation rate for English Learners has increased from 45% to 59%.

