## 2021-2022 ELL Demographics: At-a-Glance

During the 2021-2022 school year, there were ~42% (~349,000) of students enrolled in New York City (NYC) public schools with a primary home language other than English.\(^1\) Approximately ~16% (~135,000) of students enrolled in NYC public schools identified as English Language Learners (ELL).\(^2\) An ELL is a student whose primary home language is not English and has scored below a cut score on the New York State Identification Test for ELLs (NYSITELL). These students continue to be ELLs until they reach proficiency on the NYSESLAT or a combination of NYSESLAT scores and ELA/ELA Regents scores. Starting the 2019-2020 school year, NYSED and the NYC DOE refer to English Language Learners (ELLs) as multilingual learners/English Language Learners (MLs/ELLs) except in instances referring to state and federal policy. Approximately ~48% of students identified as ELLs were born in the United States.\(^3\)

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### 2021-2022 ELL Enrollment Citywide

During school year 2021-2022, 148,933 ELLs were enrolled in NYC public schools at some point in the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>34,795</td>
<td>23.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
<td>43,082</td>
<td>28.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manhattan</td>
<td>15,942</td>
<td>10.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
<td>49,717</td>
<td>33.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staten Island</td>
<td>5,397</td>
<td>3.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Figures are based on the 2021-22 Audited Register as of Fall 2021; which includes only grades K – 12, excludes charter schools, and excludes students in high school equivalency programs.

\(^2\) See footnote 1.

\(^3\) Henceforth, figures are based on 2021-22 Final ELL Dataset (BESIS data). The difference in ELL numbers between the NYC DOE’s annual ELL survey and the Audited Register is because the latter is a snapshot in time, while the former looks at all ELLs who came in and out of the NYC DOE school system during the entire school year.
### Borough Demographics At-a-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>148,933</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2021-2022 ELL Enrollment by Grade Level Citywide

During the 2021-2022 school year, slightly more than half (52.77%) of all ELLs in NYC public schools were in elementary school grades (78,587).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>14,754</td>
<td>9.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>13,976</td>
<td>9.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>14,110</td>
<td>9.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12,764</td>
<td>8.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12,149</td>
<td>8.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10,834</td>
<td>7.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10,271</td>
<td>6.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9,316</td>
<td>6.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9,197</td>
<td>6.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>12,659</td>
<td>8.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10,746</td>
<td>7.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>8,754</td>
<td>5.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>9,403</td>
<td>6.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>148,933</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2021-2022 Top 10 Home Languages for ELLs Citywide

During the 2021-2022 school year, ELLs in NYC public schools communicated in 146 languages other than English. Over 63% of ELLs are Spanish speakers, followed by students who speak Chinese, Arabic, Bengali, Russian, Urdu, Haitian Creole, Uzbek, French, and Tadzhik.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Home Language</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>94,870</td>
<td>63.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>17,546</td>
<td>11.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>8,213</td>
<td>5.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>5,622</td>
<td>3.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>4,350</td>
<td>2.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>2,397</td>
<td>1.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Haitian Creole</td>
<td>2,065</td>
<td>1.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Uzbek</td>
<td>1,651</td>
<td>1.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>1,547</td>
<td>1.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tadzhik</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Rank</td>
<td>Other (136)</td>
<td>9,592</td>
<td>6.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>All Home Languages</td>
<td>148,933</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2021-2022 ELL Programs and Services

During the 2021-2022 school year, a considerable portion of ELLs were served in Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) programs at 9.74%, while 7.63% of ELLs were served in Dual Language (DL) bilingual education programs. These programs include English as a New Language (ENL) instruction. Most ELLs were served in ENL only programs (80.30%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English as a New Language Only</td>
<td>119,586</td>
<td>80.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Bilingual Education</td>
<td>14,506</td>
<td>9.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Language</td>
<td>11,369</td>
<td>7.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Served/Not Reported</td>
<td>3,472</td>
<td>2.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>148,933</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2021-2022 ELL Subgroups

ELL Subgroups are defined by the years of ELL service a student has received:

- Newcomer: 0 to 3 years
- Developing: 4 to 6 years
- Long-term: 7 or more years

During the 2021-2022 school year, the largest proportion of ELLs in NYC public schools is represented in the Newcomer category at 51.80% (77,146) because this includes newly identified ELLs who have not yet received any ELL services. Newcomers account for more than both Developing (29.54% or 43,997) and Long-term (18.66% or 27,790) categories combined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgroup</th>
<th>ELLs (Number)</th>
<th>ELLs (Percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newcomer</td>
<td>77,146</td>
<td>51.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing</td>
<td>43,997</td>
<td>29.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term</td>
<td>27,790</td>
<td>18.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>148,933</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>