

# Data Report

Series 2010-04D

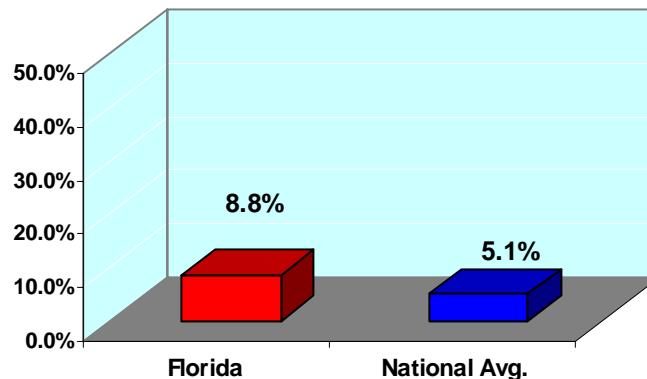
August 2009

## *English Language Learners*

### English Language Learners: Florida and the Nation

Florida Statutes define an English Language Learner (ELL) as “an individual who was not born in the United States and whose native language is a language other than English; an individual who comes from a home environment where a language other than English is spoken in the home; or an individual who is an American Indian or Alaskan native and who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on his or her level of English language proficiency; and who, by reason thereof, has sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or listening to the English language to deny such individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English” (1003.56(2)). States and local school districts receive federal aide under Title III, also known as the English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act, of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 to assist in implementing education programs for English Language Learners. National leadership in ELL education is administered by the Office of English Language Acquisition of the U.S. Department of Education.

**Figure 1: Percent of Students who are English Language Learners, 2006-07**



In 2006-07, according to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES),\* 2,497,770 students (5.1%) in reporting states and the District of Columbia were English language learners. In the same year, 234,614 students (8.8%) in Florida were English language learners. As the fourth most-populous state, Florida's ELL population is much smaller when compared to the second most populous state, Texas (10.9%). California, the most populous state did not report for 2006-07, which also impacted the national percentage of ELL students. Florida's ELL population is comparable to the third most populous state, New York (7.3%). Table 4 on page 5 provides additional state-level information.

\*NCES, Common Core of Data. <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/bat/>.

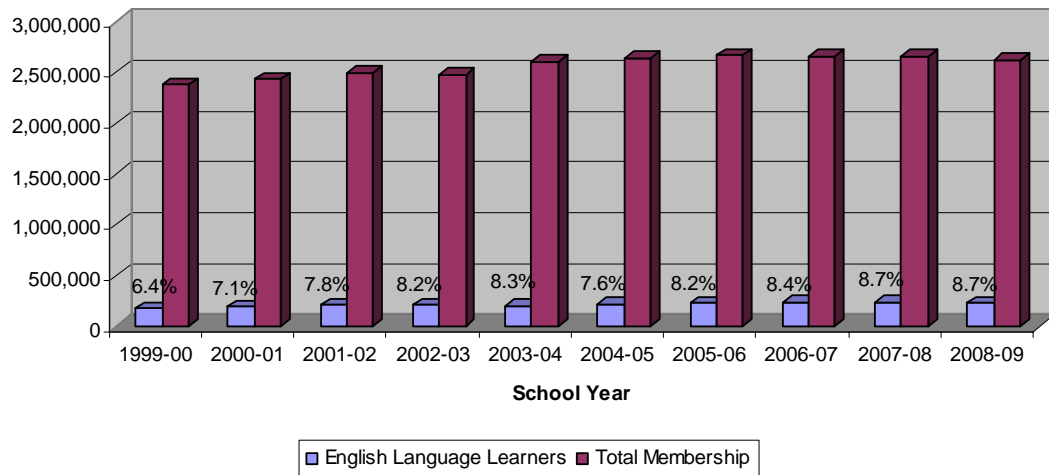


### Florida Update (2008-09)

Except for slight decreases in 2003-04 and 2008-09, the percentage of ELL students in Florida’s public schools continued on a gradual, long-term upward trend for the last decade. The ten-year numerical increase during this period amounts to 55,641 students (168,854 in 1999-2000 vs. 224,495 in 2007-08), a cumulative increase of 33.0 percent in ten years. Eight districts reported ten percent or more of their enrollment as ELL in 2008-09, as compared to only five districts ten years prior.

In 2008-09, Taylor County had the lowest percentage of ELL students (0.03 percent), and Orange County had the highest percentage (19.4 percent). Dixie County reported no ELL students in 2008-09. Orange County had the largest percentage gain in eligible students, from 8.9 percent in 1999-2000 to 19.4 percent in 2008-09.

**Figure 2: Ten-Year Comparison**



Note: Variability in factors such as the date of data compilation and certain selection criteria may result in slight differences between results reported for Florida by NCES and corresponding statewide results reported for Florida public schools by the Florida Department of Education.

### Race Distribution (Florida)

Among racial groups in 2008-09, the Hispanic population had the largest percentage of ELL students (25.7%), followed by the Asian population with 15.6%. Hispanic, Asian, and multiracial populations have experienced decreases in their percentages of ELL students over the past ten years. The following charts provide additional detail.

**Table 1: Percentage of ELL Students**

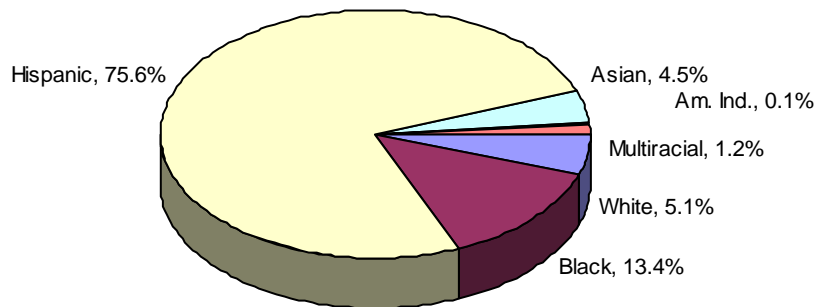
Race	School Year 2008-09	School Year 1999-00
White	1.0%	1.0%
Black	5.0%	4.3%
Hispanic	25.7%	28.6%
Asian	15.6%	15.8%
American Indian	3.6%	3.4%
Multiracial	2.7%	4.5%
Total	8.5%	7.1%

**Table 2: Proportional Changes in ELL Students by Race**

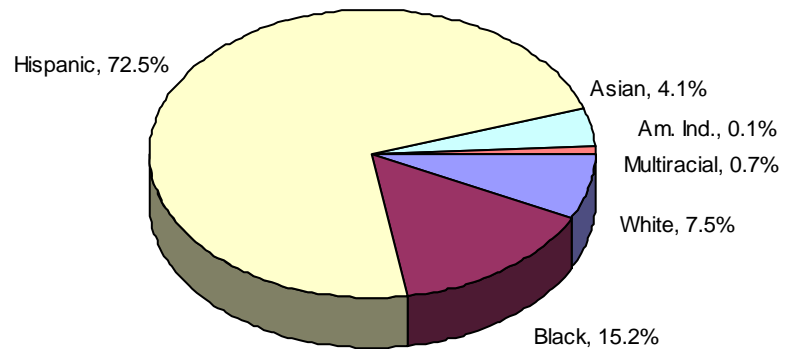
Race	2008-09	1999-00	Change
White	5.1%	7.5%	-2.3%
Black	13.4%	15.2%	-1.7%
Hispanic	75.6%	72.5%	3.1%
Asian	4.5%	4.1%	0.4%
American Indian	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Multiracial	1.2%	0.7%	0.5%

From 1999-2000 to 2008-09, the racial composition of ELL students shows little proportional change.

**Figure 3: 2008-09**



**Figure 4: 1999-2000**



Additional district-level data are shown in Table 3 on the following page.

**Table 3: Number and Percentage of English Language Learner (ELL) PK-12 Students in Florida**

DISTRICT	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	2008-09			1999-2000			PERCENT CHANGE
		TOTAL ELL	PERCENT ELL	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL ELL	PERCENT ELL		
1 ALACHUA	27,203	459	1.7%	29,905	321	1.1%	0.6%	
2 BAKER	5,066	10	0.2%	4,598	8	0.2%	0.0%	
3 BAY	25,956	351	1.4%	25,812	224	0.9%	0.5%	
4 BRADFORD	3,400	9	0.3%	4,103	20	0.5%	-0.2%	
5 BREVARD	73,076	1759	2.4%	69,788	750	1.1%	1.3%	
6 BROWARD	256,186	25442	9.9%	241,128	22,789	9.5%	0.5%	
7 CALHOUN	2,246	12	0.5%	2,213	9	0.4%	0.1%	
8 CHARLOTTE	17,361	194	1.1%	16,753	121	0.7%	0.4%	
9 CITRUS	16,028	148	0.9%	14,899	88	0.6%	0.3%	
10 CLAY	35,996	464	1.3%	27,607	179	0.6%	0.6%	
11 COLLIER	42,530	6292	14.8%	32,302	2,875	8.9%	5.9%	
12 COLUMBIA	10,058	66	0.7%	9,444	25	0.3%	0.4%	
13 DADE	344,913	52432	15.2%	360,114	60,906	16.9%	-1.7%	
14 DESOTO	4,952	520	10.5%	4,666	223	4.8%	5.7%	
15 DIXIE	2,119			2,319	1	0.0%	0.0%	
16 DUVAL	122,606	3482	2.8%	126,353	1,898	1.5%	1.3%	
17 ESCAMBIA	40,921	355	0.9%	45,296	354	0.8%	0.1%	
18 FLAGLER	12,890	328	2.5%	6,287	87	1.4%	1.2%	
19 FRANKLIN	1,285	10	0.8%	1,512	1	0.1%	0.7%	
20 GADSDEN	6,414	459	7.2%	8,020	429	5.3%	1.8%	
21 GILCHRIST	2,750	45	1.6%	2,734	14	0.5%	1.1%	
22 GLADES	1,388	53	3.8%	1,172	7	0.6%	3.2%	
23 GULF	2,050	6	0.3%	2,322	0	0.0%	0.3%	
24 HAMILTON	1,952	87	4.5%	2,227	57	2.6%	1.9%	
25 HARDEE	5,107	342	6.7%	5,040	533	10.6%	-3.9%	
26 HENDRY	7,039	404	5.7%	7,539	634	8.4%	-2.7%	
27 HERNANDO	22,721	669	2.9%	16,824	161	1.0%	2.0%	
28 HIGHLANDS	12,281	636	5.2%	11,007	431	3.9%	1.3%	
29 HILLSBOROUGH	191,965	21490	11.2%	159,358	16,213	10.2%	1.0%	
30 HOLMES	3,399	2	0.1%	3,650	6	0.2%	-0.1%	
31 INDIAN RIVER	17,606	995	5.7%	14,768	603	4.1%	1.6%	
32 JACKSON	7,319	54	0.7%	7,580	59	0.8%	0.0%	
33 JEFFERSON	1,106	22	2.0%	1,938	4	0.2%	1.8%	
34 LAFAYETTE	1,118	48	4.3%	1,084	40	3.7%	0.6%	
35 LAKE	40,996	2077	5.1%	28,545	619	2.2%	2.9%	
36 LEE	79,451	6685	8.4%	56,339	4,882	8.7%	-0.3%	
37 LEON	32,537	350	1.1%	31,539	252	0.8%	0.3%	
38 LEVY	6,022	137	2.3%	6,283	106	1.7%	0.6%	
39 LIBERTY	1,484	2	0.1%	1,210	6	0.5%	-0.4%	
40 MADISON	2,715	5	0.2%	3,507	5	0.1%	0.0%	
41 MANATEE	42,584	4101	9.6%	35,448	1,906	5.4%	4.3%	
42 MARION	41,547	1945	4.7%	38,469	743	1.9%	2.8%	
43 MARTIN	18,067	2131	11.8%	16,236	1,131	7.0%	4.8%	
44 MONROE	8,278	477	5.8%	9,385	499	5.3%	0.4%	
45 NASSAU	10,980	77	0.7%	10,216	20	0.2%	0.5%	
46 OKALOOSA	29,123	603	2.1%	30,248	85	0.3%	1.8%	
47 OKEECHOBEE	7,003	519	7.4%	6,758	359	5.3%	2.1%	
48 ORANGE	172,028	33321	19.4%	144,308	12,886	8.9%	10.4%	
49 OSCEOLA	51,955	9730	18.7%	31,877	4,173	13.1%	5.6%	
50 PALM BEACH	170,745	17457	10.2%	149,889	18,150	12.1%	-1.9%	
51 PASCO	66,778	2670	4.0%	47,693	1,286	2.7%	1.3%	
52 PINELLAS	106,046	3774	3.6%	111,822	2,252	2.0%	1.5%	
53 POLK	94,716	8432	8.9%	78,816	2,859	3.6%	5.3%	
54 PUTNAM	11,492	653	5.7%	12,647	369	2.9%	2.8%	
55 ST. JOHNS	28,916	194	0.7%	19,046	80	0.4%	0.3%	
56 ST. LUCIE	38,837	2869	7.4%	29,361	1,612	5.5%	1.9%	
57 SANTA ROSA	25,397	126	0.5%	22,226	54	0.2%	0.3%	
58 SARASOTA	41,057	2233	5.4%	34,686	1,128	3.3%	2.2%	
59 SEMINOLE	64,933	2475	3.8%	59,571	1,501	2.5%	1.3%	
60 SUMTER	7,650	376	4.9%	5,868	203	3.5%	1.5%	
61 SUWANNEE	5,978	202	3.4%	5,838	66	1.1%	2.2%	
62 TAYLOR	3,299	1	0.0%	3,805	4	0.1%	-0.1%	
63 UNION	2,315	2	0.1%	2,335	3	0.1%	0.0%	
64 VOLUSIA	63,065	2899	4.6%	60,665	1,487	2.5%	2.1%	
65 WAKULLA	5,264	4	0.1%	4,620	3	0.1%	0.0%	
66 WALTON	7,002	177	2.5%	5,915	51	0.9%	1.7%	
67 WASHINGTON	3,534	26	0.7%	3,363	1	0.0%	0.7%	
<b>SUBTOTAL (1-67)</b>	<b>2,620,801</b>	<b>224,375</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>2,378,896</b>	<b>168,851</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	
<b>FLORIDA</b>	<b>2,628,754</b>	<b>224,495</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>2,378,896</b>	<b>168,851</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	

\*State totals include the special districts: Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Dozier/Okeechobee, FAU Lab Schools, FSU Charter Schools, FAMU Lab School, UF Lab School, Florida Connections Academy, and Florida Virtual Academy.

Source: Florida Department of Education, Student Demographic Information records compiled during fall reporting surveys for years shown. Statistics for 2008-09 are current as of 7/28/09.

**Table 4: Number and Percentage of English Language Learners, by State (2006-07)**

STATE OR JURISDICTION	NUMBER	PERCENT
ALABAMA	18,359	2.5%
ALASKA	20,761	15.7%
ARIZONA	128,987	12.1%
ARKANSAS		
CALIFORNIA		
COLORADO		
CONNECTICUT	26,357	4.6%
DELAWARE	4,425	6.5%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	6,648	5.4%
FLORIDA	234,614	8.8%
GEORGIA	90,025	5.5%
HAWAII	15,660	8.7%
IDAHO	16,698	6.2%
ILLINOIS	172,950	8.2%
INDIANA	42,541	4.1%
IOWA	18,124	3.8%
KANSAS	28,915	6.2%
KENTUCKY	10,816	1.7%
LOUISIANA	8,629	1.3%
MAINE	3,899	2.0%
MARYLAND		
MASSACHUSETTS	54,071	5.6%
MICHIGAN	69,515	4.1%
MINNESOTA	63,858	7.6%
MISSISSIPPI	5,129	1.1%
MISSOURI		
MONTANA	6,983	4.8%
NEBRASKA	18,190	6.3%
NEVADA	70,548	16.7%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	3,162	1.6%
NEW JERSEY		
NEW MEXICO	60,711	18.5%
NEW YORK	196,153	7.3%
NORTH CAROLINA	88,655	6.1%
NORTH DAKOTA	2,399	2.5%
OHIO	29,169	1.6%
OKLAHOMA	38,098	6.0%
OREGON	63,049	11.2%
PENNSYLVANIA	43,739	2.3%
RHODE ISLAND	10,034	6.6%
SOUTH CAROLINA	30,163	4.3%
SOUTH DAKOTA		
TENNESSEE	28,979	3.0%
TEXAS	501,333	10.9%
UTAH	48,399	9.2%
VERMONT	1,785	1.9%
VIRGINIA	86,392	7.1%
WASHINGTON	84,761	8.3%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,248	0.8%
WISCONSIN	38,833	4.4%
WYOMING	3,006	3.5%
REPORTING STATES	2,497,770	5.1%

Source: NCES, Common Core of Data. <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/bat/>.