Mapping Languages Taught in Washington High Schools — 2013

Background

The Mapping and Enhancing Language Learning (MELL) project provides county maps based on world language enrollments to help illustrate the distribution of world languages offered across the state of Washington. This brief is an update showing 2013 enrollment data reported in the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) CEDARS database. For specific data about world language enrollments by school, district, county, and language, download CEDARS World Language Enrollments Spring 2013 (Excel) at http://depts.washington.edu/mellwa/Maps/counties_hs_2013.php.

High School Language Enrollments in Spring 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Total # of Enrollments</th>
<th>% of Total Enrollments</th>
<th># of Schools Offering Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>154,781</td>
<td>63.75%</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>38,768</td>
<td>15.97%</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASL</td>
<td>18,687</td>
<td>7.70%</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>12,843</td>
<td>5.29%</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>11,030</td>
<td>4.54%</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>3,197</td>
<td>1.32%</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American Languages</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somali</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1386</td>
<td>0.57%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>242,775</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least 2 years

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 39 out of 39 counties reported offering at least two years of a world language. (2012: 39, 2009: 39)
4 or more years

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 29 out of 39 counties reported offering four or more years of the same world language (for example, students may have begun language study in middle school and continued through the AP level in high school). (2012: 32, 2009: 29 | Dropped: Ferry, Pend Oreille, Stevens)

2 or more languages

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 37 out of 39 counties reported offering 2 or more world languages at their schools. (2012: 33, 2009: 33 | Added: Asotin, Douglas, Klickitat, Lincoln)

Spanish

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 39 out of 39 counties reported offering Spanish. (2012: 39, 2009: 39)

French

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 34 out of 39 counties reported offering French. (2012: 34, 2009: 29 | Added: Kittitas | Dropped: Columbia)
German
In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 30 out of 39 counties reported offering German. (2012: 30, 2009: 21)

ASL American Sign Language

Japanese

Chinese
In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 22 out of 39 counties reported offering Chinese. (2012: 16, 2009: 5 | Added: Chelan, Cowlitz, Grant, Grays Harbor, Lewis, San Juan, Wahkiakum | Dropped: Whatcom)
Latin


Native American Languages

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 9 out of 39 counties reported offering Native American Languages. (2012: 9, 2009: 7 | Added: King, Kitsap | Dropped: San Juan, Snohomish)

Russian

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 11 out of 39 counties reported offering Russian. (2012: 9, 2009: 5 | Added: Grays Harbor, King, Skagit, Yakima | Dropped: Snohomish, Whitman)

Arabic

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 5 out of 39 counties reported offering Arabic. (2012: 6, 2009: 1 | Added: San Juan, Spokane | Dropped: Island, Pierce, Stevens)
Italian

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 5 out of 39 counties reported offering Italian. (2012: 5, 2009: Not listed | Added: King, Kitsap, Stevens, Yakima | Dropped: Island, Lewis, Skamania, Spokane)

Korean


Tagalog

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 3 out of 39 counties reported offering Tagalog. (2012: Not listed, 2009: Not listed)

Vietnamese

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 2 out of 39 counties reported offering Vietnamese. (2012: 1, 2009: Not listed | Added: Whatcom)
Somali

In the 2013 OSPI CEDARS data, high schools in 1 out of 39 counties reported offering Somali. (2012: Not listed, 2009: Not listed)

Impact of Competency-Based Credits

Since 2011, students in Washington State have had the opportunity to take nationally available language proficiency tests to demonstrate their ability to read, write, listen, and speak in a language other than English. They can potentially earn from 1 to 4 high school competency-based credits in a world language.

We are now seeing the impact of this change in at least two ways. First, languages such as Vietnamese, which were not taught in Washington schools, now have students who count as enrollments in the OSPI CEDARS database by having demonstrated proficiency and earning competency-based credits. Second, students in various places in the state may be tested in languages that are not taught in their schools and in this way, those languages now “appear” or “disappear” in the county maps, depending on the number of students taking these tests in any given year. For more information about Competency-Based Credits, visit: http://www.k12.wa.us/WorldLanguages/CompetencyBasedCredits.aspx.