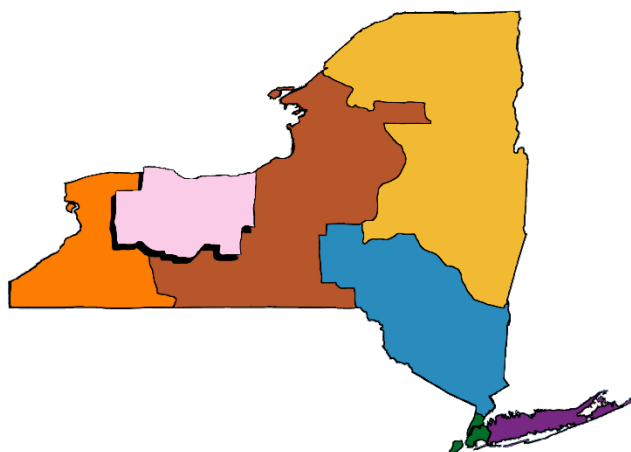
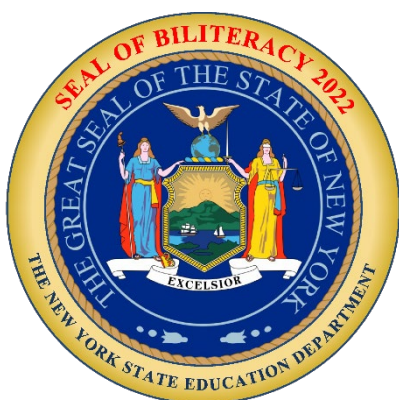


The New York State Seal of Biliteracy in the Mid-West Region



2021-22 Report

Office of Bilingual Education
and World Languages

New York State Education Department



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity



Suggested citation:

New York State Department of Education (NYSED) (2023). *The New York State Seal of Biliteracy in the Mid-West Region Report 2021-22*. By the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages.

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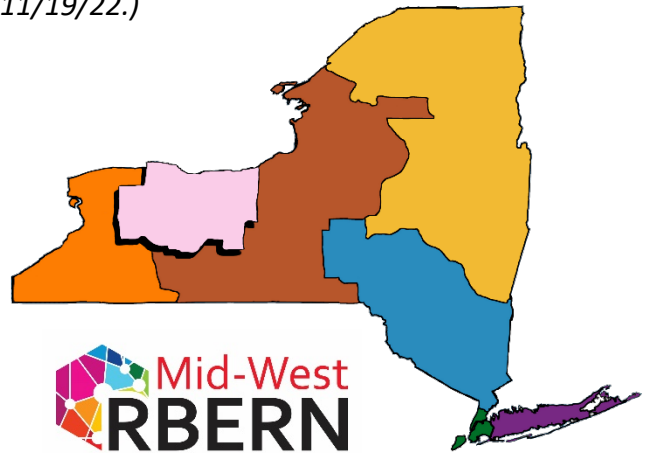
The Mid-West Region

The Mid-West region, represented by the area in pink on the map on the right, is made up of the counties of Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates.

The Mid-West region is supported by the Mid-West Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (RBERN) at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES. The purpose of the Mid-West RBERN is to build capacity within school communities to cultivate strong leaders, high quality and meaningful instruction, and welcoming and inclusive environments for English Language Learners (ELLs). The Mid-West RBERN is committed to developing partnerships that result in equitable educational outcomes for ELLs by capitalizing on the backgrounds, cultures, and strengths of diverse students and educators. The RBERN provides services to over 71 districts, including the delivery of professional learning on high quality instruction and assessment practices that support academic achievement for ELLs, technical assistance on the design, implementation and enhancement of educational programs for ELLs, technical assistance and workshops on state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, and a support network for resources and collaboration for the education of ELLs.

Figure 1. Map of New York State by Region with the Mid-West Region Highlighted (Image downloaded from:

<https://www.nysrbernondemand.org/> on 11/19/22.)



Contact

Mid-West RBERN, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES

3599 Big Ridge Rd, Spencerport, NY 14459, Tel: (585) 352-2790

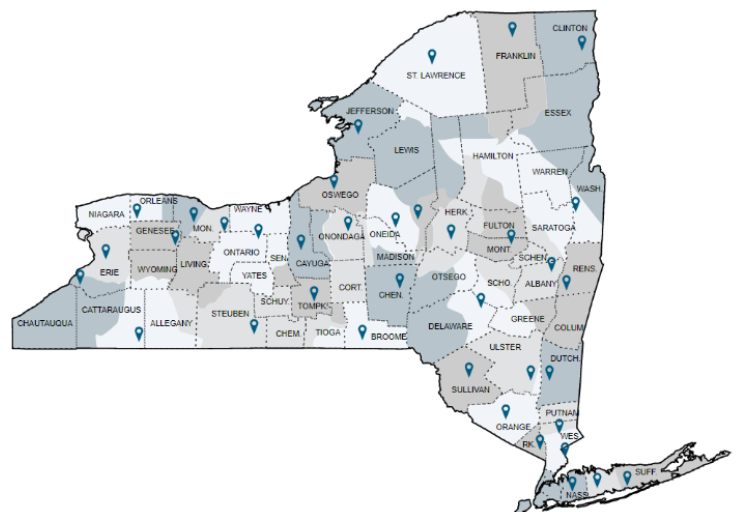
Website: www.monroe2boces.org/rbern, Email: midwestrbern@monroe2boces.org

This Mid-West region is also serviced by the following BOCES shown in Figure 2 below:

- [Ontario-Seneca-Yates-Cayuga-Wayne Counties and BOCES \(Wayne-Finger Lakes\)](#)
- [Monroe County and BOCES \(Monroe 1\)](#)
- [Monroe-Orleans Counties and BOCES \(Monroe 2-Orleans\)](#)
- [Genesee-Livingston-Steuben-Wyoming Counties and BOCES \(Genesee Valley BOCES\)](#)

Figure 2. Map of New York State by County with BOCES Pinned (Image downloaded from:

<https://www.boces.org/contact-a-boces/> on 11/19/22.)




An infographic summary of the NYSSB in the Mid-West region for 2021-22 can be found on the following two pages in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Infographic Summary of the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region (2021-22)





NYS Seal of Biliteracy Mid-West Region 2021-22





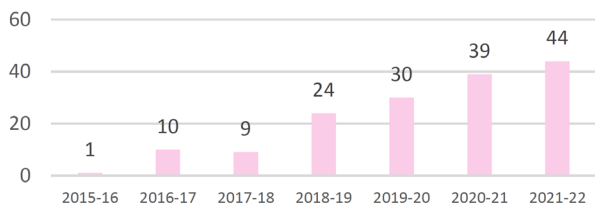
The New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) recognizes students from district, charter, and non-public schools who have attained a **high level of proficiency in two or more world languages** (one of which must be English) by high school graduation. It acknowledges the importance of biliteracy in today's global society.

- 
- The intent of the NYSSB is to:
- affirm the value of diversity in a multilingual society;
 - encourage the study of languages;
 - identify high school graduates with multilingualism and multiliteracy skills for employers;
 - provide universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission;
 - prepare students with twenty-first century skills; and
 - recognize the value of world and home language instruction in schools.



The NYSSB carries the highest weight on a school's "[Readiness Measures](#)", on par with the NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams. This also includes current ELLs not in the graduation cohort earning the NYSSB and a Regents Diploma.

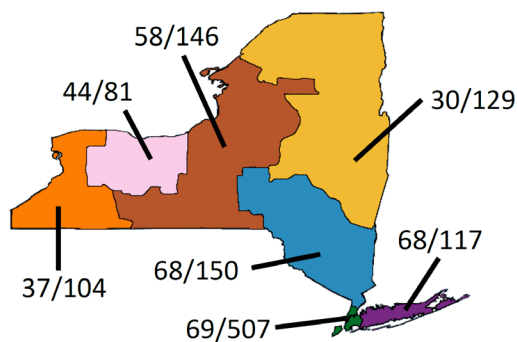
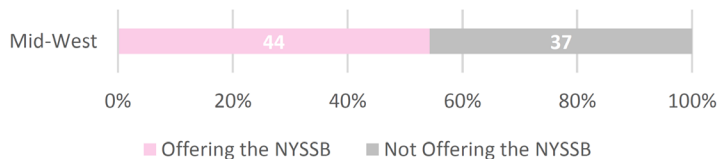
Number of Schools Offering the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region (2016-2022)



54.3%

of district schools in the Mid-West region offered the NYSSB in 2021-22.

Number of Schools Offering vs. Not Offering the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region (2021-22)



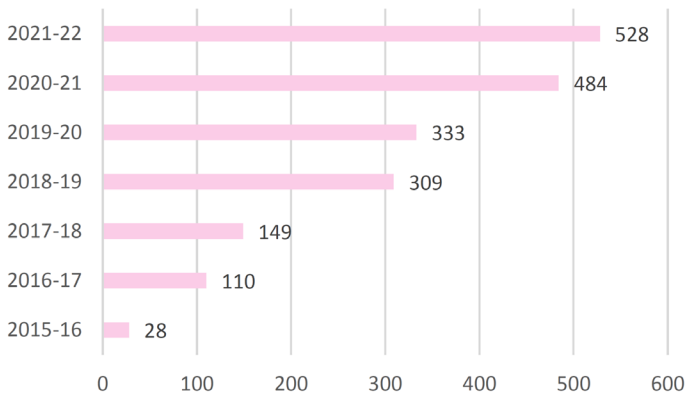
The ratios listed are the number of schools offering the NYSSB to the total number of district schools in the region.

Languages in which Mid-West students earned the NYSSB in 2021-22

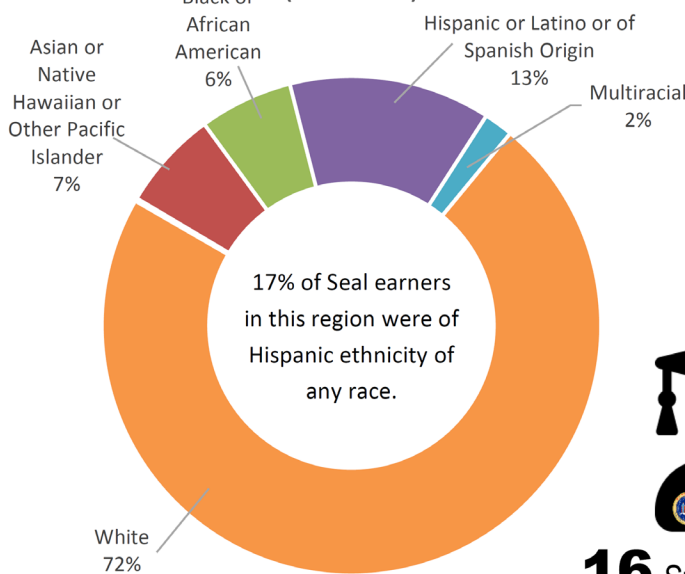
American Sign Language, Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, Croatian, French, German, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Italian, Karen, Kinyarwanda, Latin, Mandarin, Nepali, Pashto, Poe Karen, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese

528 students from the Mid-West region earned the NYSSB in 2021-22.

NYSSB Earners in the Mid-West Region (2016-2022)



Percentage of Students who Earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by Race (2021-22)

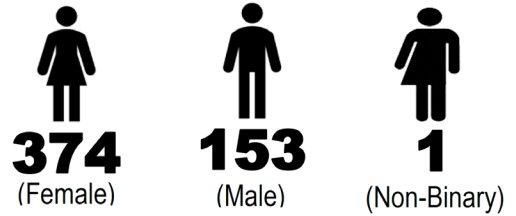


2 Students from the Mid-West region earned the NYSSB in **three** world languages in addition to English in 2021-22.

16 Students from the Mid-West region earned the NYSSB in **two** world languages in addition to English in 2021-22.



Seal Earners by Gender

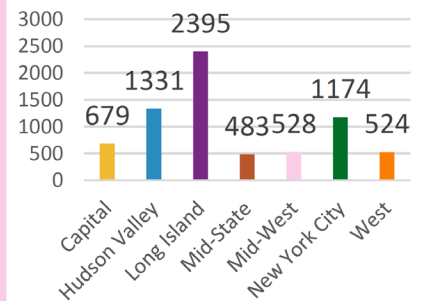


Seal Earners by ELL Status

Current ELLs	38
Former/Ever ELLs	33
Never ELLs - Home Language = English	424
Never ELLs - Home Language ≠ English	33

Current ELLs are students who, by birth or ancestry, speak or understand a language other than English and who score below the designated level on the NYS English language proficiency assessment. **Ever ELLs** (includes Former ELLs) are students who were once ELLs, but who have demonstrated the NYS designated level of proficiency necessary to exit ELL status. **Never ELLs** are students who have never been identified as ELLs. A Never ELL's home language may be English or another world language.

Total Number of Students who Earned the NYSSB by Region (2021-22)



Your local RBERN can also provide support for your Seal of Biliteracy Program.

Mid-West RBERN, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES

3599 Big Ridge Rd, Spencerport, NY 14459, Tel: (585) 352-2790

Website: www.monroe2boces.org/rbern, Email: midwestrbern@monroe2boces.org

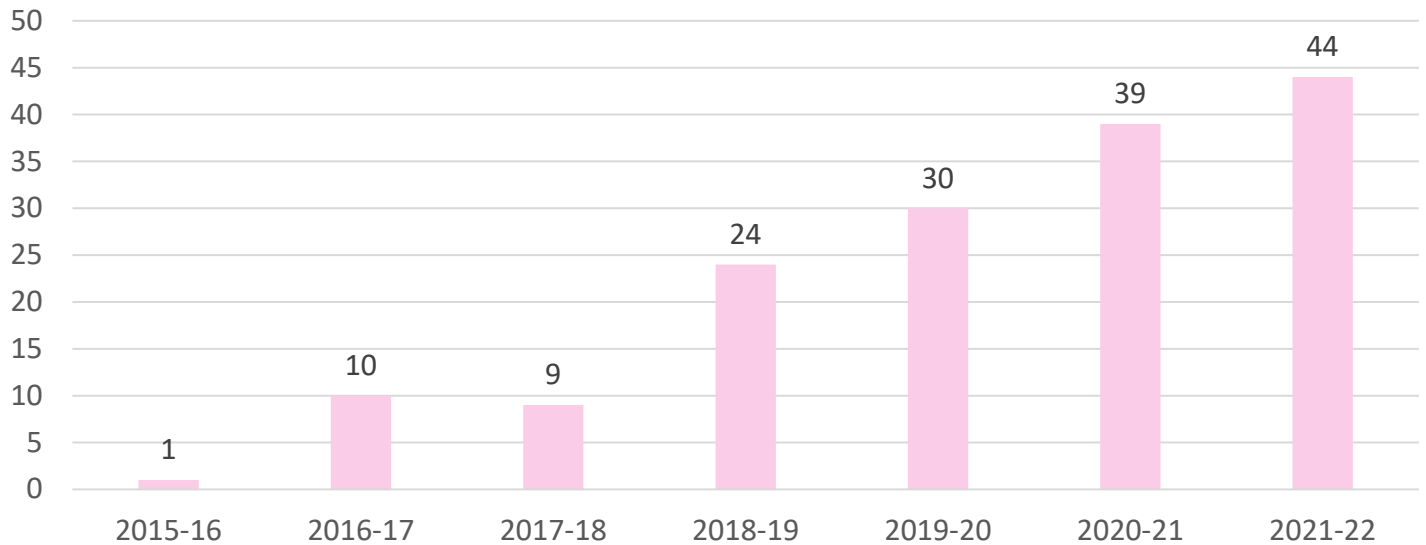
Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages, New York State Education Department
 NYSSB Website, Email: nyssb@nysed.gov



Schools that Offered the NYSSB

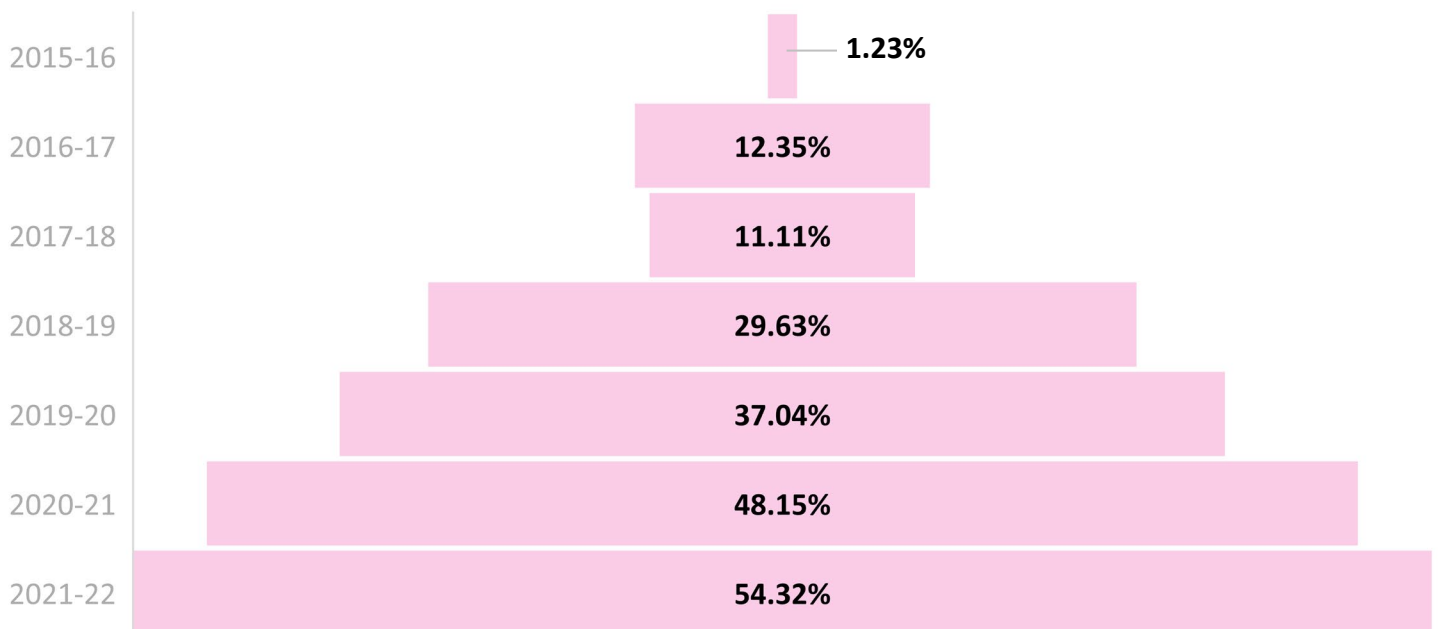
The number of schools in the Mid-West region that offered the NYSSB rose in 2021-22 to 44 schools, as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Growth in the Number of Mid-West Region High Schools Offering the NYSSB (2016-2022)



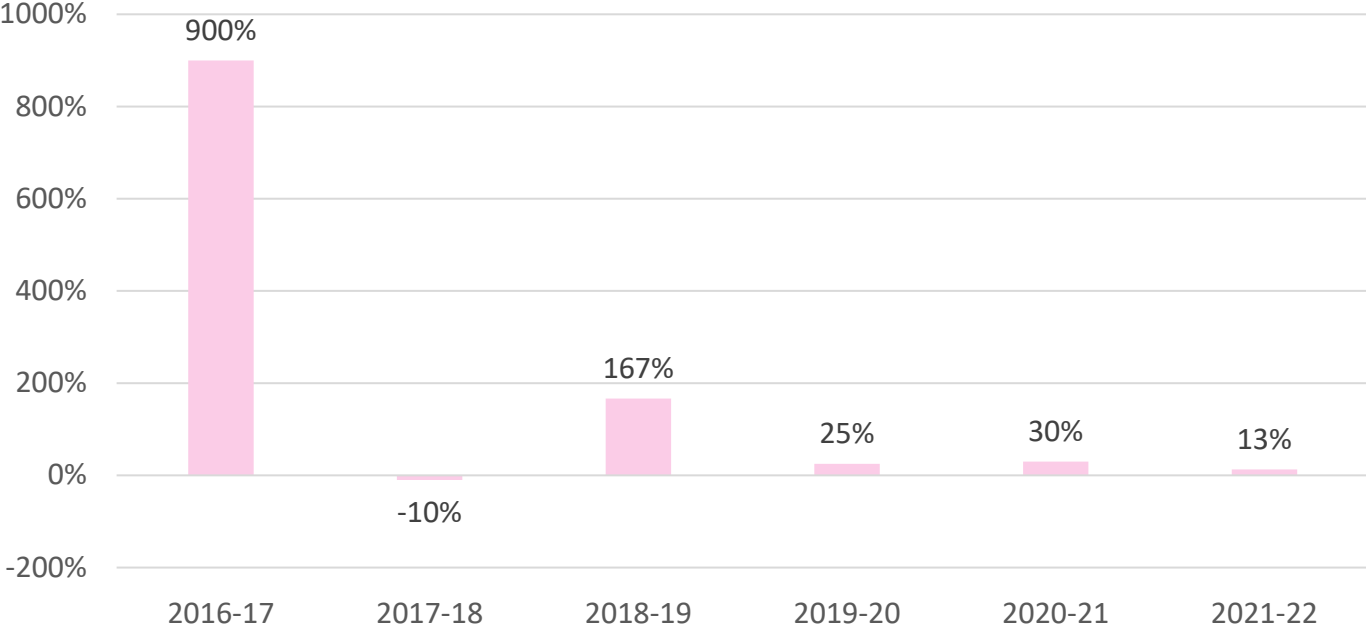
The Mid-West region reached an important milestone in 2021-22 by surpassing 50% of its district high schools offering the NYSSB. One possible explanation for this achievement in the Mid-West region is the existence of a NYSSB consortium organized by the Mid-West RBERN at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES. This consortium brings together schools currently offering the NYSSB as well as those interested in doing so to work together under the guidance of Resource Specialist Anna Stukes to review regulations, develop and strengthen their programs, and to network and problem-solve collaboratively. As demonstrated in Figure 5 below, the percentage of schools in Mid-West region has experienced a steady growth over the last six years.

Figure 5. Mid-West Region NYSSB Schools as a Percentage of Total District High Schools in the Mid-West Region (2016-2022)



The growth rate in the percentage of schools offering the NYSSB in the Mid-West has seen significant variation, with a 900% increase in the number of schools offering the NYSSB in 2016-17, followed by a 10% decrease the following year, followed by a 167% increase in 2018-19. Over the last three years, the region has seen a 25% increase (2019-20), a 30% increase (2020-21), and a 13% increase (2021-22) in schools offering the NYSSB, suggesting a stabilization in the growth rate, as shown in Figure 6 below.

Figure 6. Percentage of Growth in Number of Schools in the Mid-West Region Offering the NYSSB (2016-2022)

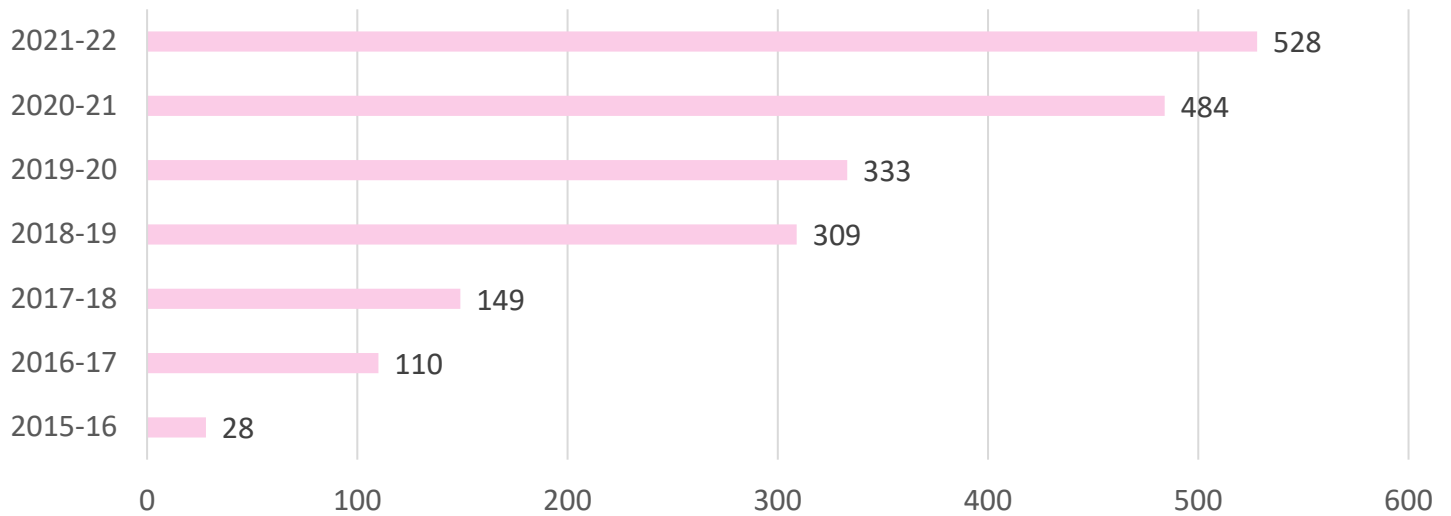


2022 NYSSB graduates from Webster Schroeder High School
(Photo courtesy of Webster CSD)

Students Who Earned the NYSSB

The number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West region grew substantially in 2021-22 to 528 students, up more than 9% from the prior year.

Figure 7. Number of Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region (2016-2022)

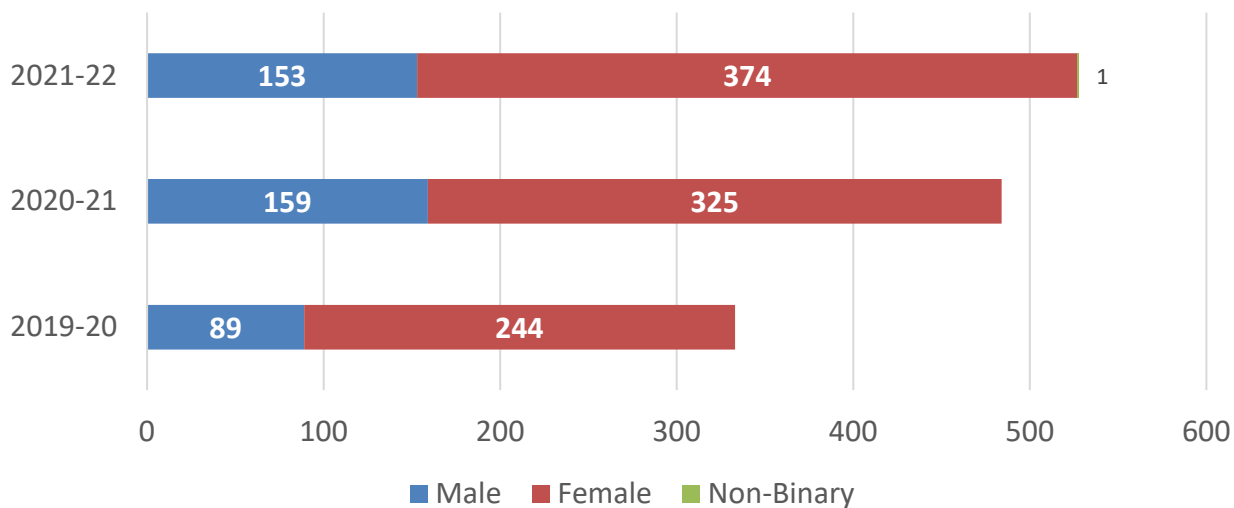


Seal Earners by Gender

The gender make-up of the NYSSB class of 2021-22 from the Mid-West region changed in multiple ways from the prior year:

- Seal earners who identify as male represented 27% of all NYSSB earners from the Mid-West region in 2019-20, rose to 33% in 2020-21, and fell back to 29% in 2021-22.
- Seal earners who identify as female represented 73% of all NYSSB earners from the Mid-West region in 2019-20, fell to 67% in 2020-21, and rose again to 71% in 2021-22.
- 2020-21 was the first year that students pursuing the NYSSB were able to identify as non-binary. While there were no non-binary Seal earners from the Mid-West region in that year, 2021-22 did have one Seal earner from this region who identified in this way.

Figure 8. Number of Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by Gender (2020-2022)



Seal Earners by Race and Ethnicity

Students of all five federal race designations and Hispanic students from the Mid-West region earned the NYSSB in 2021-22. Figure 9 below shows the percentage of Seal Earners in the Mid-West region by race/ethnicity in 2021-22.

Figure 9. Number of Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by Race/Ethnicity (2021-22)

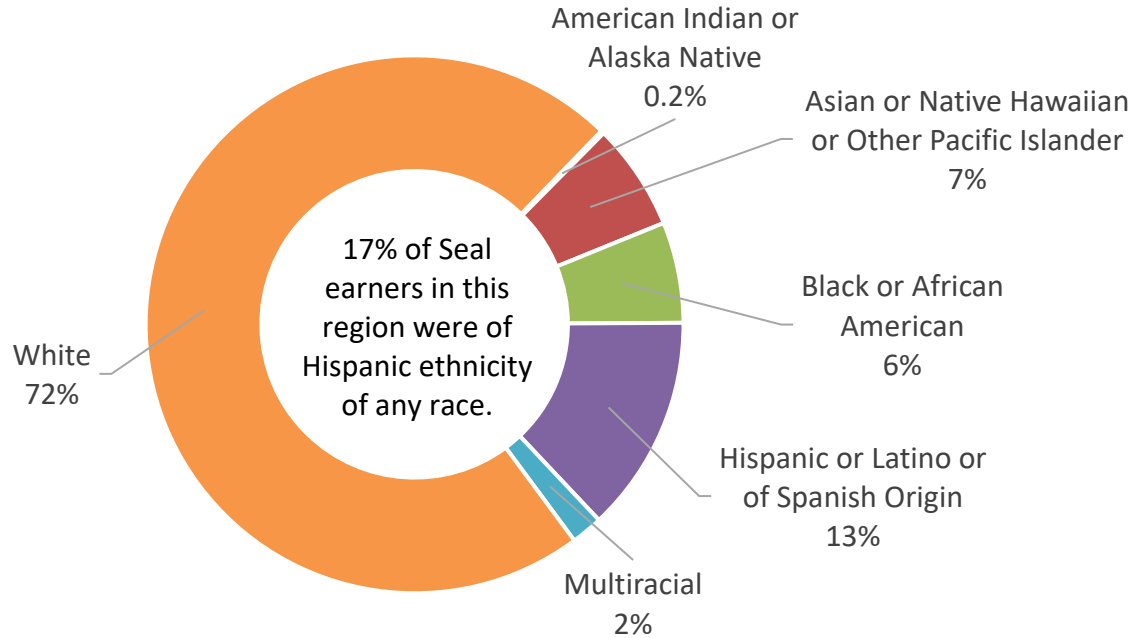


Table 1 below displays the number of Mid-West region Seal earners from 2019-20 through 2021-22 disaggregated by race/ethnicity. The last three years’ data shows relatively stable and somewhat increasing numbers for all racial/ethnic groups, except for Hispanic Seal earners, which decreased slightly (from 86 in 2020-21 to 69 in 2021-22), and White Seal earners, which increased significantly from 342 (2020-21) to 382 (2021-22).

Table 1. Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by Race/Ethnicity (2020-2022)

Mid-West Region	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	1
Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	24	28	34
Black or African American	24	21	32
Hispanic or Latino or of Spanish Origin	64	86	69
Multiracial	6	7	10
White	215	342	382
TOTAL	333	484	528

Seal Earners by ELL Status

There are four student sub-groups which are eligible to pursue the NYSSB:

- **Current English Language Learners (ELLs)** - students who, by birth or ancestry, speak or understand a language other than English and who score below the designated level on the NYS English language proficiency assessment. Current ELLs generally earn the NYSSB in their home language and English.
- **Ever ELLs** - students who were once ELLs, but who have demonstrated the NYS designated level of proficiency necessary to exit ELL status. Ever ELLs generally earn the NYSSB in their home language and English, although some may take a course of study in another language in which to pursue the NYSSB.
- **Never ELLs whose home language (HL) is English** - students who have never been identified as ELLs and whose home language is English. This sub-group of Never ELLs generally earns the NYSSB in English and a world language that they study through the Checkpoint C level.
- **Never ELLs whose home language (HL) is other than English** - students who have never been identified as ELLs and whose home language is other than English. This sub-group of Never ELLs generally earns the NYSSB in English and their home language, but may also do so in a language that they study in school.

Table 2. Number of Students Who Earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by ELL Status (2016-2022)

Mid-West Region	ELLs	Ever ELLs	Never ELLs (HL= English)	Never ELLs (HL≠ English)	Total
2015-16	3		25		28
2016-17	10	3	97		110
2017-18	2	7	140		149
2018-19	24	34	251		309
2019-20	29	28	276		333
2020-21	39	40	375	30	484
2021-22	38	33	424	33	528

Historically in the Mid-West region, as well as in most other regions of the state, the majority of students who earn the NYSSB are Never ELLs whose home language is English and who earn the NYSSB in English and in a world language studied in school. The participation in the NYSSB among Current ELLs in the Mid-West region had been growing steadily since 2018-19, then remained flat in 2021-22. To increase the number of Current ELLs participating in the NYSSB:

1. More schools in the Mid-West region are encouraged to sign on to offer the NYSSB, especially those with significant ELL and Former/Ever ELL populations. While more than 54% of the region's district high schools offer the NYSSB, there is still room to recruit additional schools to offer this program.
2. Schools offering the NYSSB are encouraged to have systems in place to support students' acquisition of English as well as the development the home language(s) of Current ELLs.
3. Schools offering the NYSSB are encouraged to develop promotional materials in the preferred languages of their ELL families to ensure parents are made aware of the opportunity and benefits of earning the NYSSB.
4. Schools offering the NYSSB are encouraged to develop a network of adults among their staff and within their communities that are qualified speakers of other languages, focusing on the languages spoken by their Current and Ever ELLs, so as to support the participation in the NYSSB by these students. These

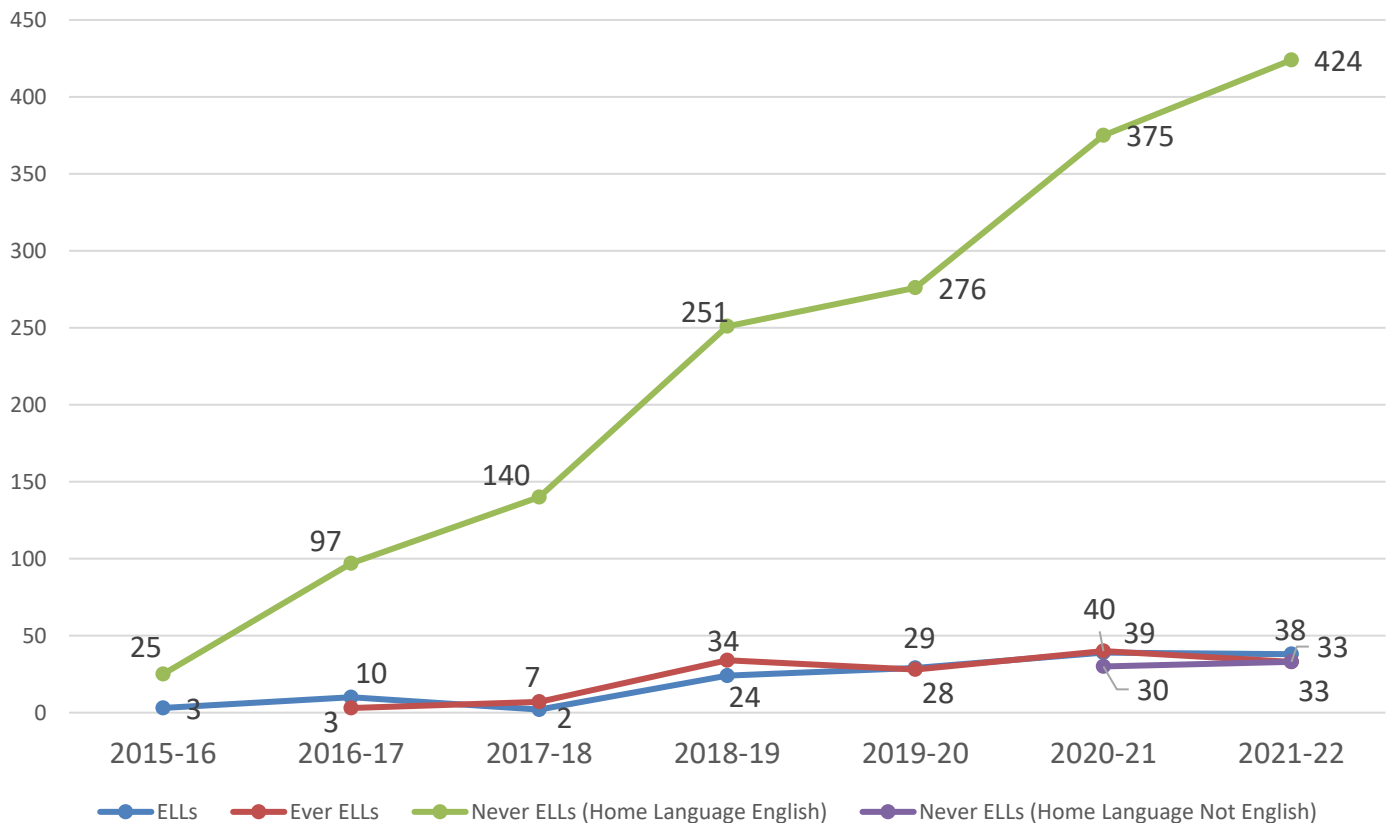
adults can serve as advisors to students pursuing the NYSSB and as members of the panel of reviewers that evaluates the students' Culminating Projects.

The number of Ever/Former ELLs in the Mid-West region dropped to 33 students in 2021-22, after rebounding in 2020-21 from a prior year's drop.

Never ELLs whose home language is English have historically represented the vast majority of Seal earners, not only within the Mid-West region, but across New York State. This population of Seal earners has shown the most drastic growth within the region, from 25 Seal earners in the first year the NYSSB was offered to 424 in 2021-22, representing an almost fifteen-fold growth rate over six years. It is likely that Never ELLs whose home language is English is the most easily identifiable student sub-group, given that they represent any senior who is currently completing a Checkpoint C world language course, or seniors who completed such a class with an average of 85% or better in the prior year. These students are enrolled in coursework that directly supports attainment of the NYSSB, including regular access to instructors who speak the world language in which the students are pursuing the NYSSB.

In 2020-21, the subgroup "Never ELLs" was divided into those whose home language is English and those whose home language is other than English. The purpose of this re-categorization was to distinguish students who are native English speakers from those who speak a language other than English at home. This latter group of students is often referred to as Heritage Language Speakers. Schools may face challenges in identifying these students as potential NYSSB applicants since they are not identified as ELLs and may speak a language that is not taught in their school. A total of 33 Never ELLs who home language (HL) is other than English earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West region in 2021-22. Figure 10 shows the number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by ELL status from 2016 to 2022.

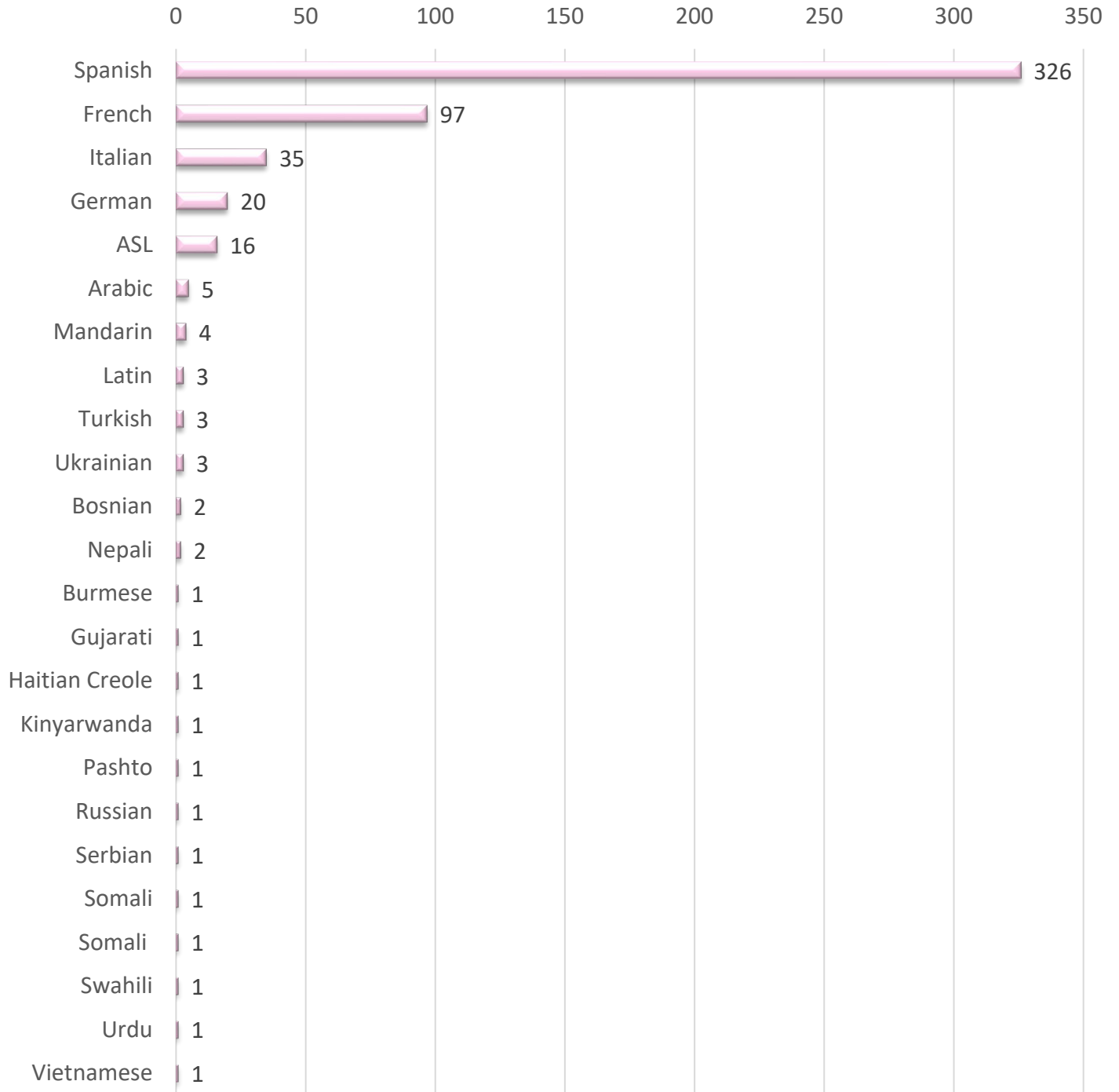
Figure 10. Number of Students Who Earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by ELL Status (2016-2022)



Seal Earners by Language

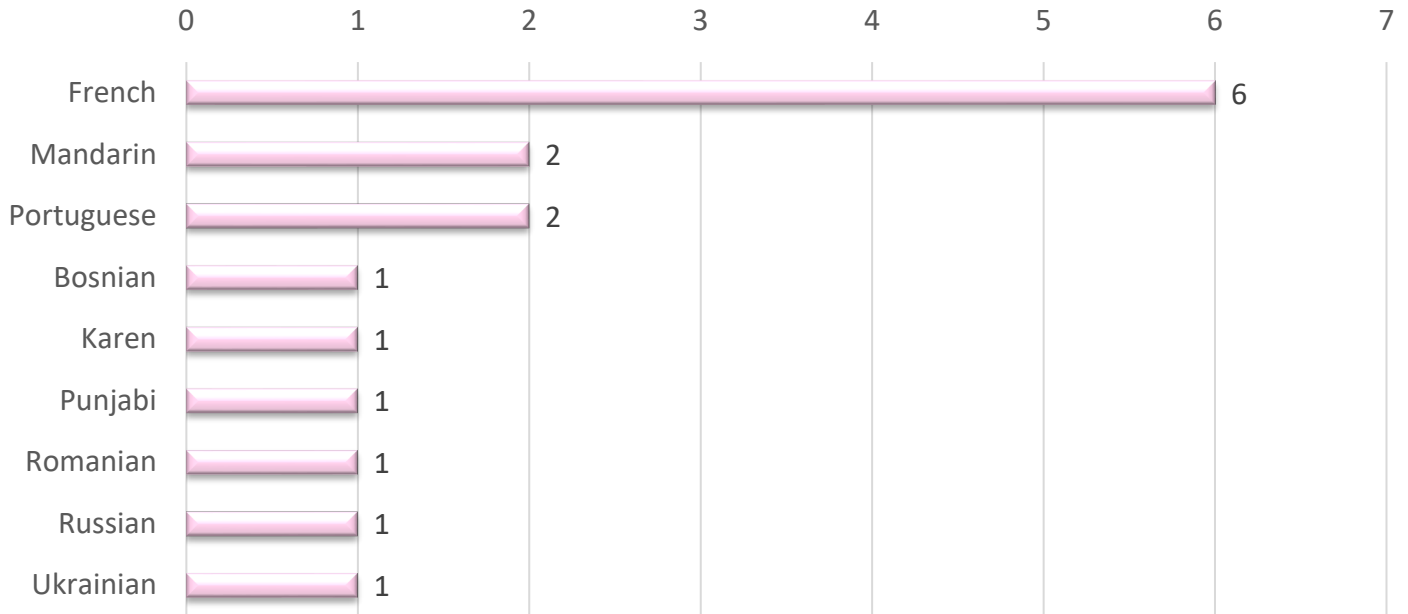
Students from the Mid-West region earned the NYSSB in American Sign Language, Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, Croatian, French, German, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Italian, Karen, Kinyarwanda, Latin, Mandarin, Nepali, Pashto, Poe Karen, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Figure 11 shows the world languages other than English in which students earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West region, ranked from most to least frequent.

Figure 11. Number of Students Who Earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by World Language (2016-2022)



Sixteen students from the Mid-West region were awarded the NYSSB in two world languages in addition to English, as shown in Figure 12. Two students from this region were awarded the NYSSB in three world languages in addition to English.

Figure 12. Number of Students Who Earned the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region in Two World Languages in Addition to English (2021-22)



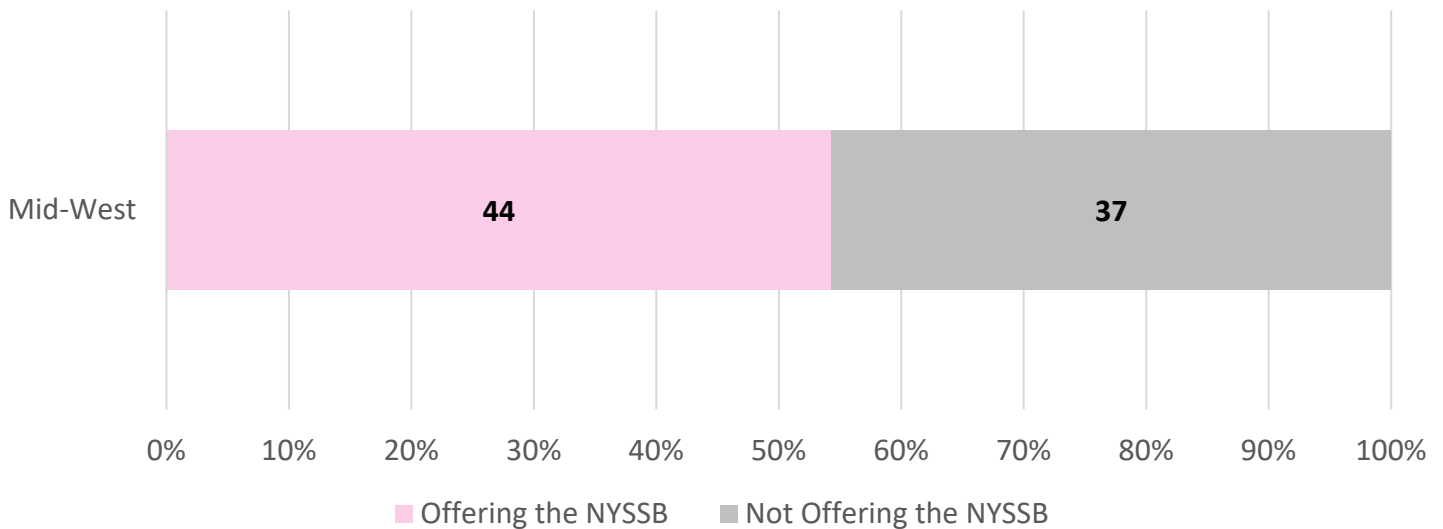
2022 NYSSB graduates from Greece Olympia High School
(Photo courtesy of Greece CSD)

Areas for Potential Growth of the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region

Schools

There is significant potential for growth within this region that has 37 district high schools that did not have a NYSSB program as of 2021-22, as shown in Figure 13 below.

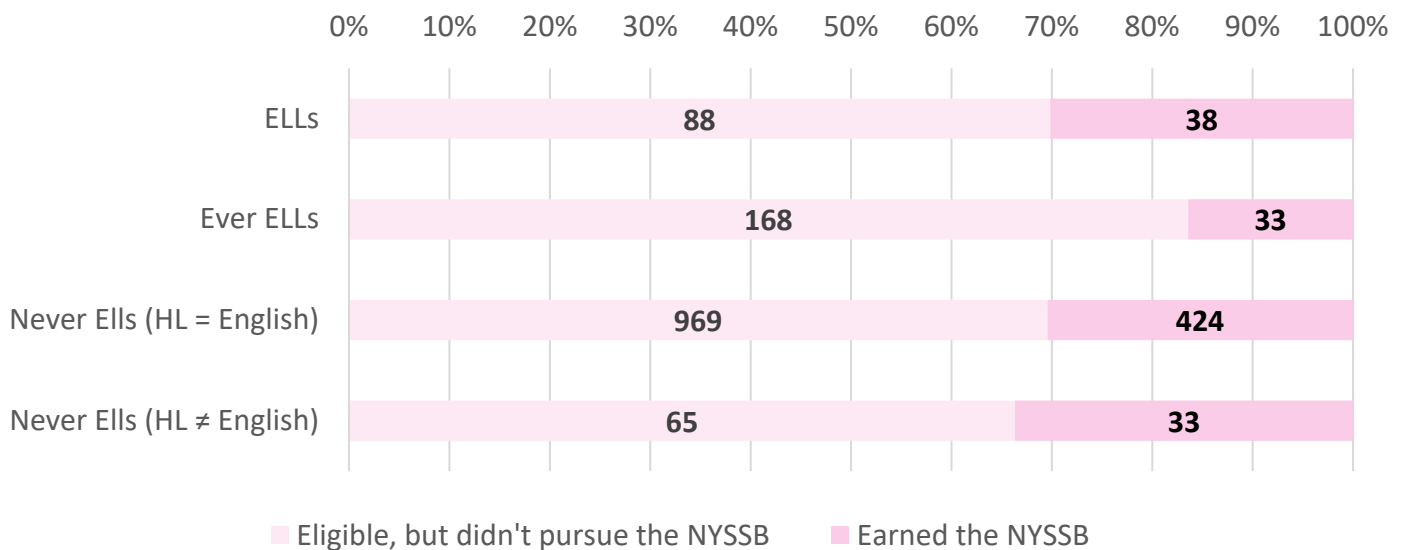
Figure 13. District High Schools in the Mid-West Region Offering vs. Not Offering the NYSSB (2021-22)



Students

In the Mid-West region, as in most regions, the largest group of students earning the NYSSB are Never ELLs whose home language is English and who are taking a course of study in a world language in high school. Figure 14 below shows the total students in the Mid-West region who earned the NYSSB in 2021-22 as compared to those who were eligible, but did not pursue the NYSSB, disaggregated by ELL status.

Figure 14. Seal Earners vs. Eligible Students Not Pursuing the NYSSB in the Mid-West Region by ELL Status (2021-22)



Eligible students include any student graduating in 2021-22 who was proficient in or studying English and another world language at the Checkpoint C level or higher.

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New York State Department of Education (NYSED) (2019). *The New York State Seal of Biliteracy 2018-19 Report*. By the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages.

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2022 NYSSB graduates from Webster Thomas High School
(Photo courtesy of Webster CSD)