



# NYS Seal of Biliteracy New York City Region 2020-21



The New York 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.



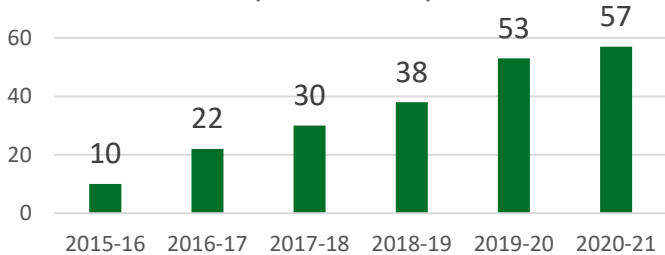
The intent of the NYSSB is to:

- 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.

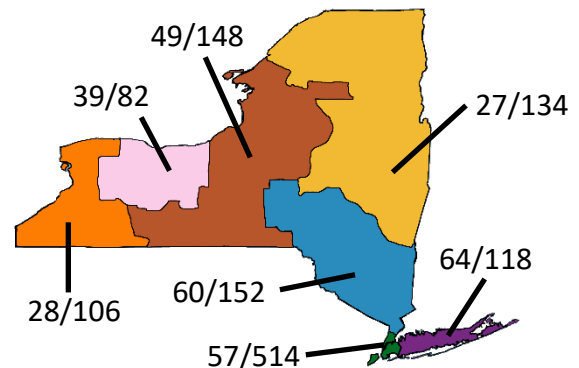
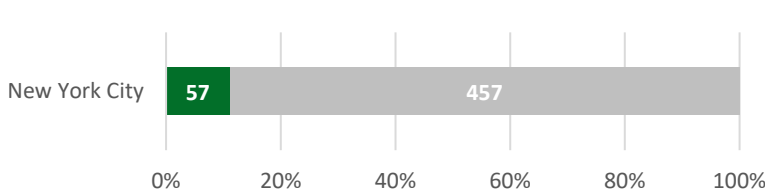
Number of Schools Offering the NYSSB in the New York City Region (2016-2021)



## 11.1%

of district schools in the New York City region offered the NYSSB in 2020-21.

Number of District Schools Offering vs. Not Offering the NYSSB in the New York City Region (2020-21)



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

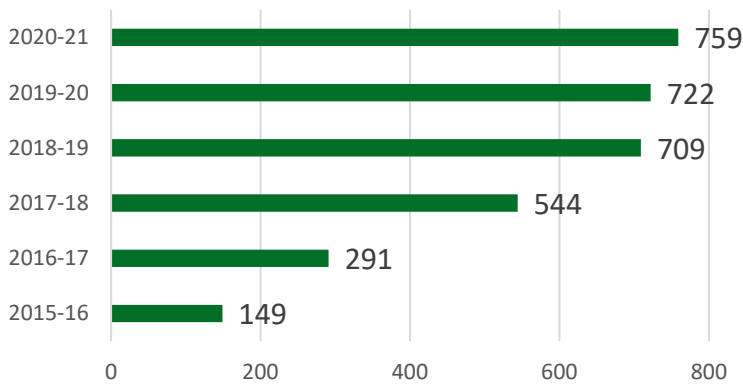
\*There are three charter schools and one non-public school offering the NYSSB that are included in the total (57) schools.

## Languages in which New York City students earned the NYSSB in 2020-21

Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, English, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Haitian Creole, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Soninke, Spanish, and Urdu

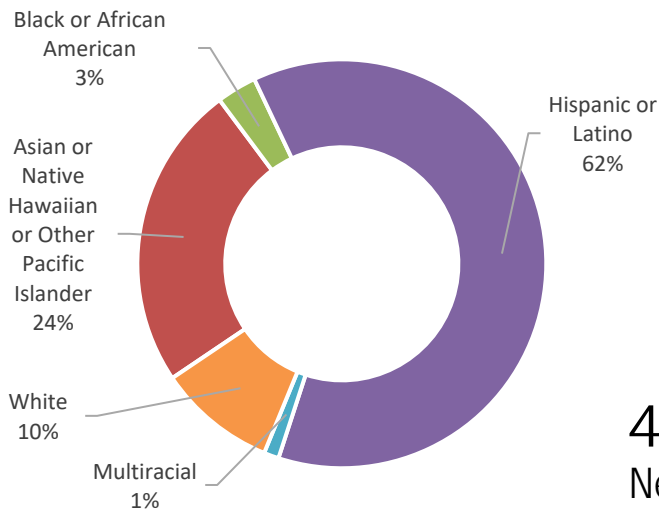
759 students from the New York City region earned the NYSSB in 2020-21.

NYSSB Earners in the New York City Region (2016-2021)



Despite the challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, the number of students from the New York City region earning the NYSSB continues to increase.

Percentage of Students who Earned the NYSSB in the New York City Region by Race/Ethnicity (2020-21)

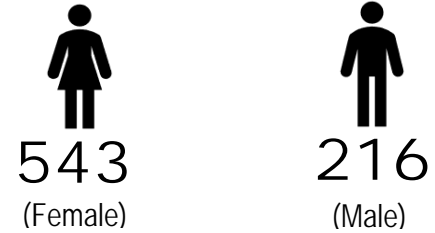


1 Student from the New York City region earned the NYSSB in three world languages in addition to English in 2020-21.



4 Students from the New York City region earned the NYSSB in two world languages in addition to English in 2020-21.

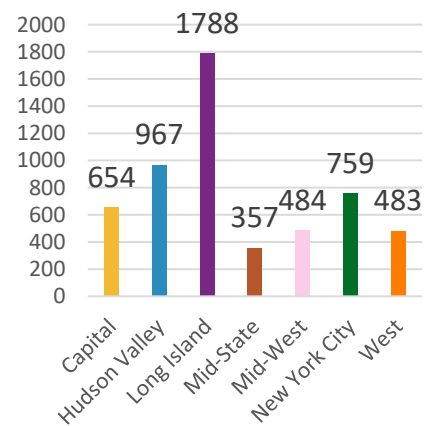
Seal Earners by Gender



Seal Earners by ELL Status

Current ELLs	179
Former/Ever ELLs	333
Never ELLs - Home Language = English	105
Never ELLs - Home Language ≠ English	142

**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.



NYCDOE schools should contact [DML@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:DML@schools.nyc.gov) to get started with the NYSSB.

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

New York City RBERN @ Fordham University

Lincoln Center, 113 W. 60th St., Rm. 1008C, New York, NY 10023, Tel: (718) 817-0606

[Link to website](#) \* Email: [nycrbern@fordham.edu](mailto:nycrbern@fordham.edu)

