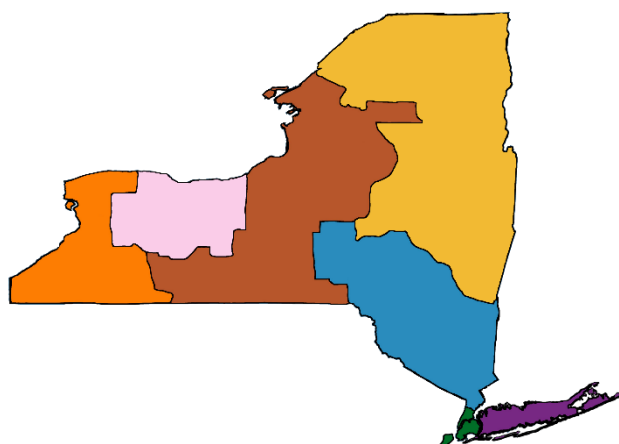
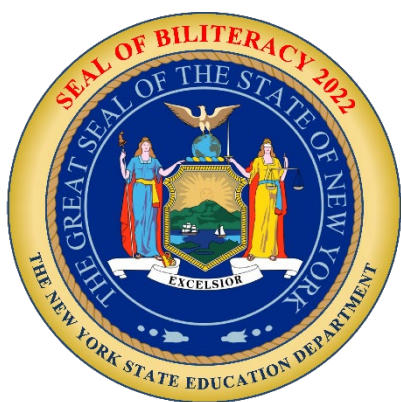


The New York State Seal of Biliteracy in the Long Island Region



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 Long Island Region Report 2021-22*. By the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages.

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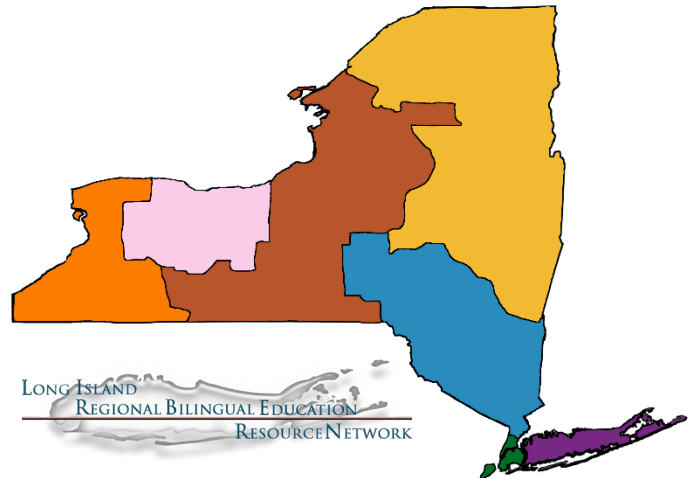
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The Long Island Region

The Long Island region, represented by the area in purple on the map on the right, is made up of the counties of Nassau and Suffolk.

The Long Island region is supported by the Long Island Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (RBERN) at Eastern Suffolk BOCES. This RBERN provides services to 125 districts in promoting equity and excellence in the education of English Language Learners (ELLs) by providing high-quality technical assistance, on-site consultation, and professional learning. The Long Island RBERN provides technical assistance on the intricacies of NYSED regulations and OBEWL guidance as they apply to ELLs. Resource Specialists work with district and building leaders to identify the needs of their English as a New Language (ENL) and Bilingual programs. On-site consultation, such as embedded coaching, guidance on curriculum and instructional strategies, or a comprehensive Program Quality Review is also offered. The Long Island RBERN Resource Specialists regularly deliver professional learning sessions tailored to the needs of the region, and/or specific school districts. All professional learning provided by the Long Island RBERN is eligible for Continuing Teacher Leader Education (CTLE) credit.

Figure 1. Map of New York State by Region with the Long Island Region Highlighted (Image downloaded from: <https://www.nysrbernondemand.org/> on 11/19/22.)



Contacts

Suffolk Administrative Office, Eastern Suffolk BOCES

379 Locust Avenue, Oakdale, NY 11769, (631) 218-5175

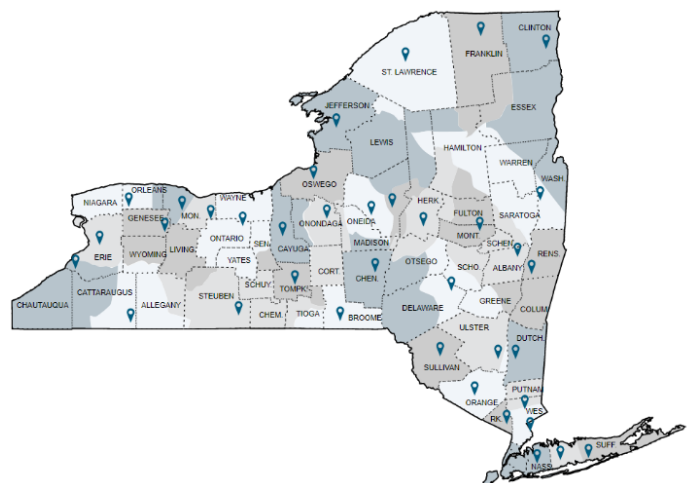
Website: www.esboces.org/lirbern, Email: lirbern@esboces.org

Western Satellite Office, Western Suffolk BOCES, (631) 595-6911

The Long Island region is also serviced by the following BOCES shown in Figure 2 on the right:

- [Nassau County and BOCES](#)
- [Western Suffolk BOCES](#)
- [Suffolk BOCES \(Eastern Suffolk\)](#)

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 Long Island region for 2021-22 can be found on the following two pages in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Infographic Summary of the NYSSB in the Long Island Region (2021-22)




NYS Seal of Biliteracy Long Island 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.

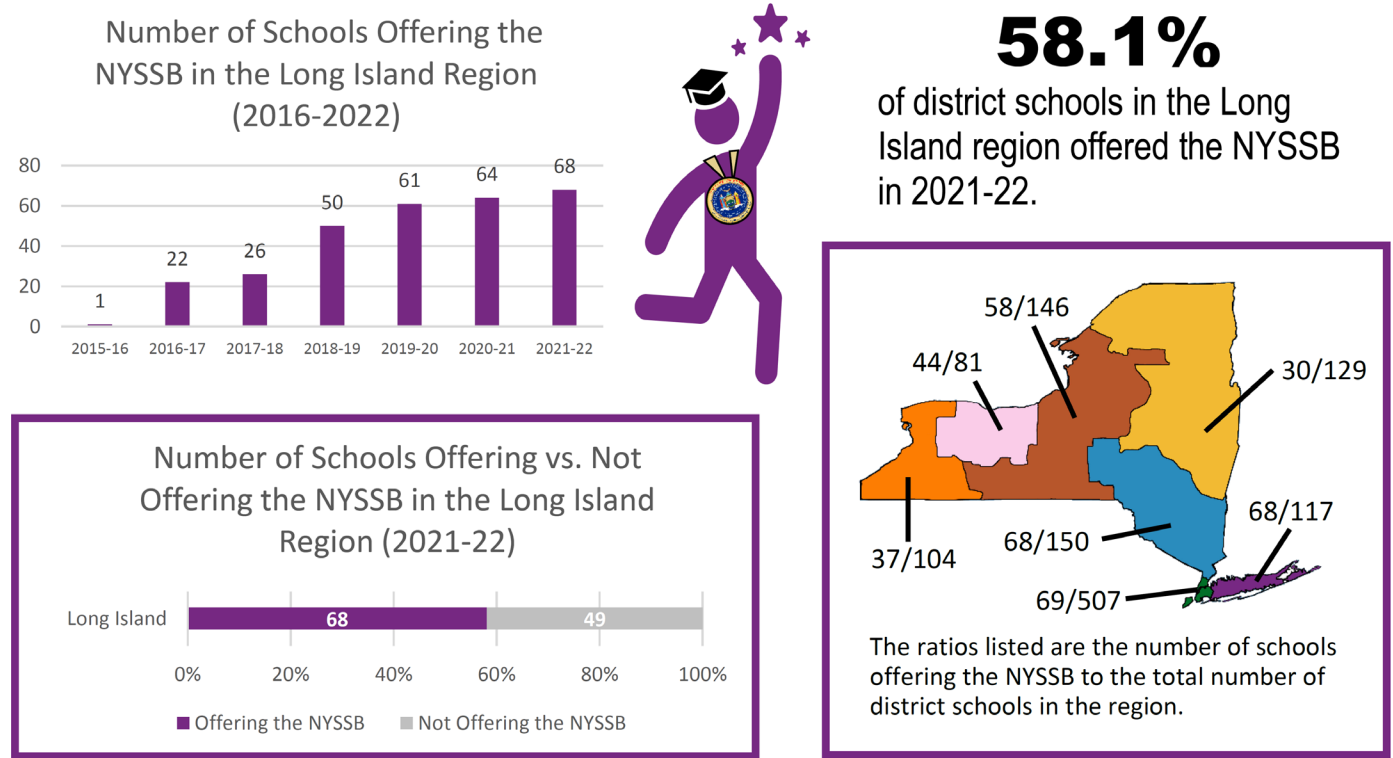


The intent of the NYSSB is to:

- 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.



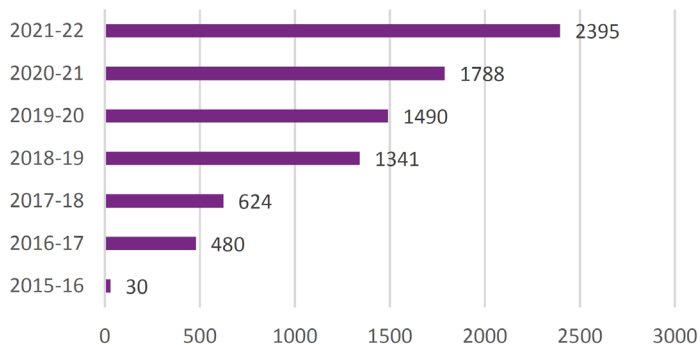
The NYSSB carries the highest weight on a school's "[Readiness Measures](#)", on par with the NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams. This also includes current ELLs not in the graduation cohort earning the NYSSB and a Regents Diploma.



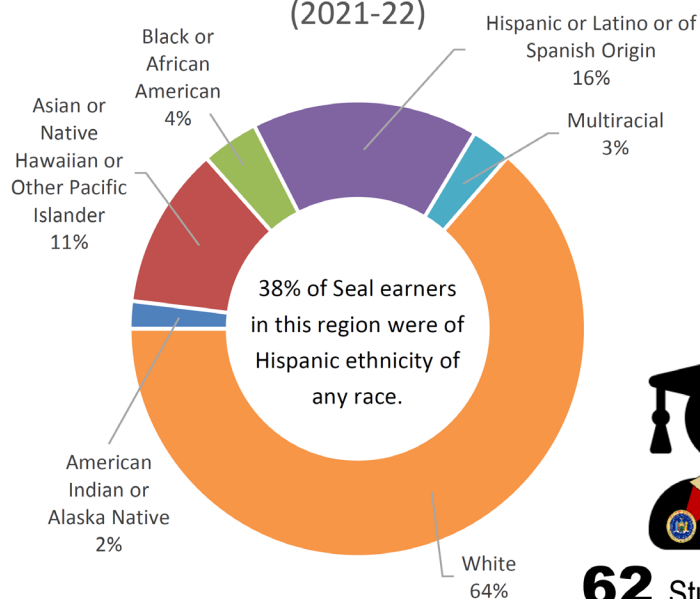
Languages in which Long Island students earned the NYSSB in 2021-22
Albanian, American Sign Language, Bangla, Czech, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Tagalog, Turkish

2,395 students from the Long Island region earned the NYSSB in 2021-22.

NYSSB Earners in the Long Island Region (2015-2022)



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

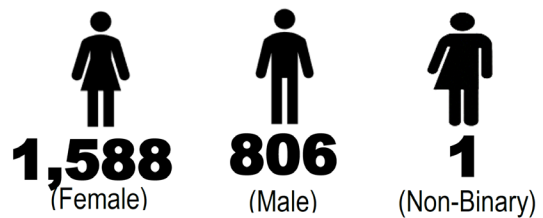


2 Students from the Long Island region earned the NYSSB in **three** world languages in addition to English in 2021-22.



62 Students from the Long Island region earned the NYSSB in **two** world languages in addition to English in 2021-22.

Seal Earners by Gender

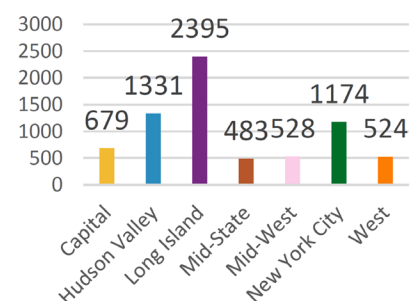


Seal Earners by ELL Status

Current ELLs	174
Former/Ever ELLs	294
Never ELLs - Home Language = English	1,619
Never ELLs - Home Language ≠ English	308

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.

Long Island RBERN @ Eastern Suffolk BOCES

379 Locust Avenue, Oakdale, NY 11769, Tel: (631) 218-5175

Website: www.esboces.org/lirbern Email: lirbern@esboces.org

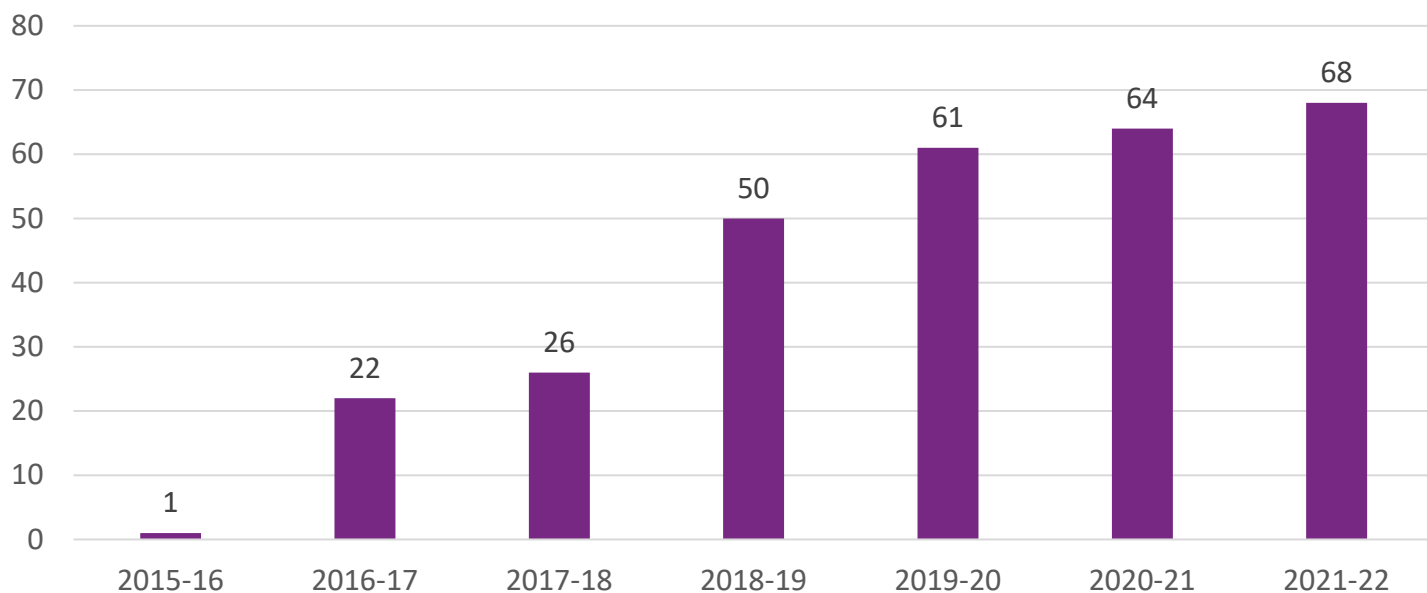
Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages, New York State Education Department
 NYSSB Website, Email: nyssb@nysed.gov



Schools that Offered the NYSSB

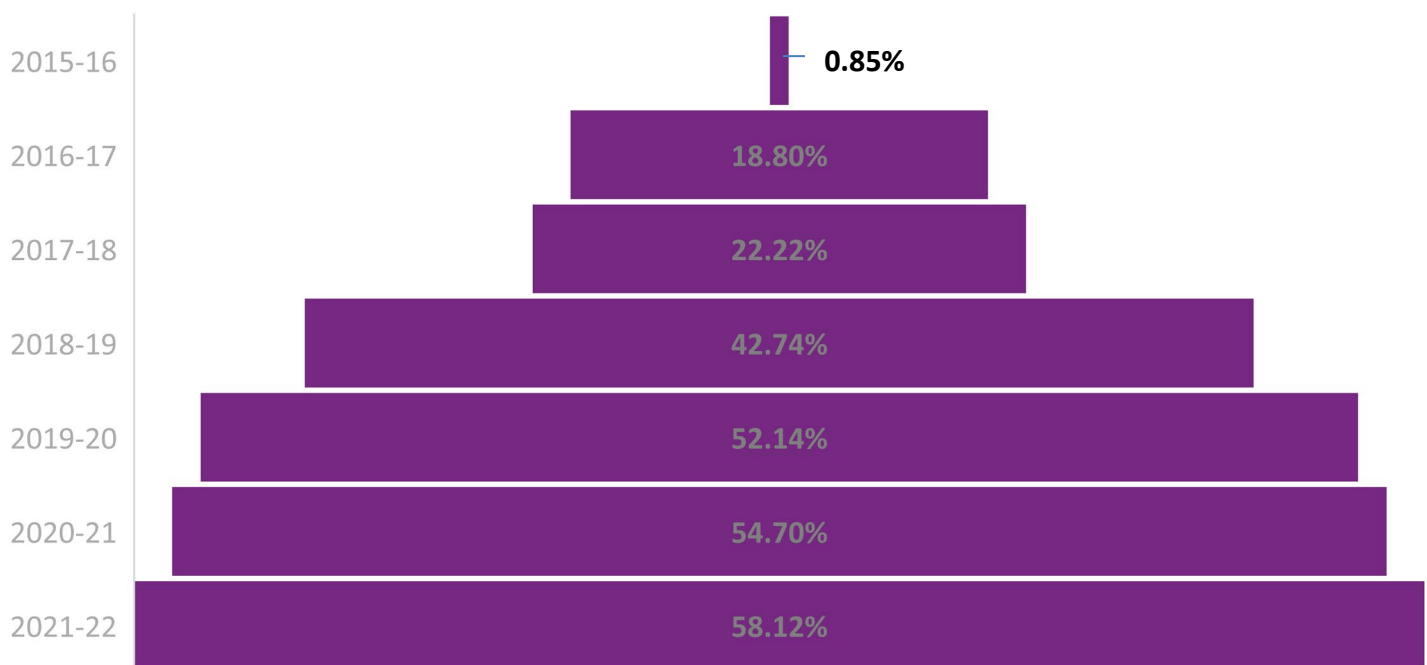
The number of schools in the Long Island region that offered the NYSSB rose again in 2021-22 to 68 schools, as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Growth in the Number of Long Island High Schools Offering the NYSSB (2016-2022)



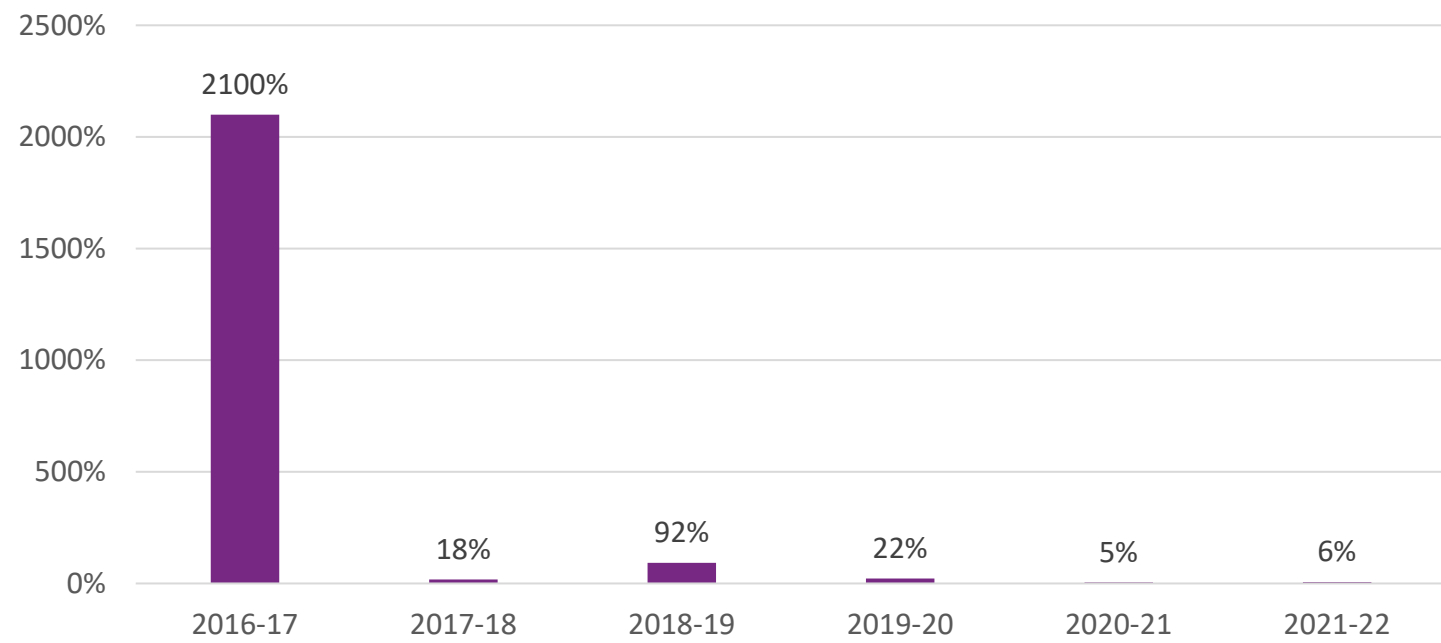
The 68 schools in the Long Island region represented over 58% of district high schools in the region, or more than one in every two district high schools, the highest of any region in our state. As demonstrated in Figure 5 below, the percentage of schools in the Long Island region has experienced explosive growth after the first year the NYSSB was offered in 2015-16, starting at 0.85% and growing to 58.1% in six years.

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



The growth rate in the percentage of schools offering the NYSSB in the Long Island region spiked in the 2016-17 school year in which the number of schools offering the NYSSB rose by 2100%. The growth rate in 2021-22, was 6%, holding steady from the prior year. As regions surpass the threshold of 50% or more of their district high schools offering the NYSSB, it is anticipated that the growth rates will slow.

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

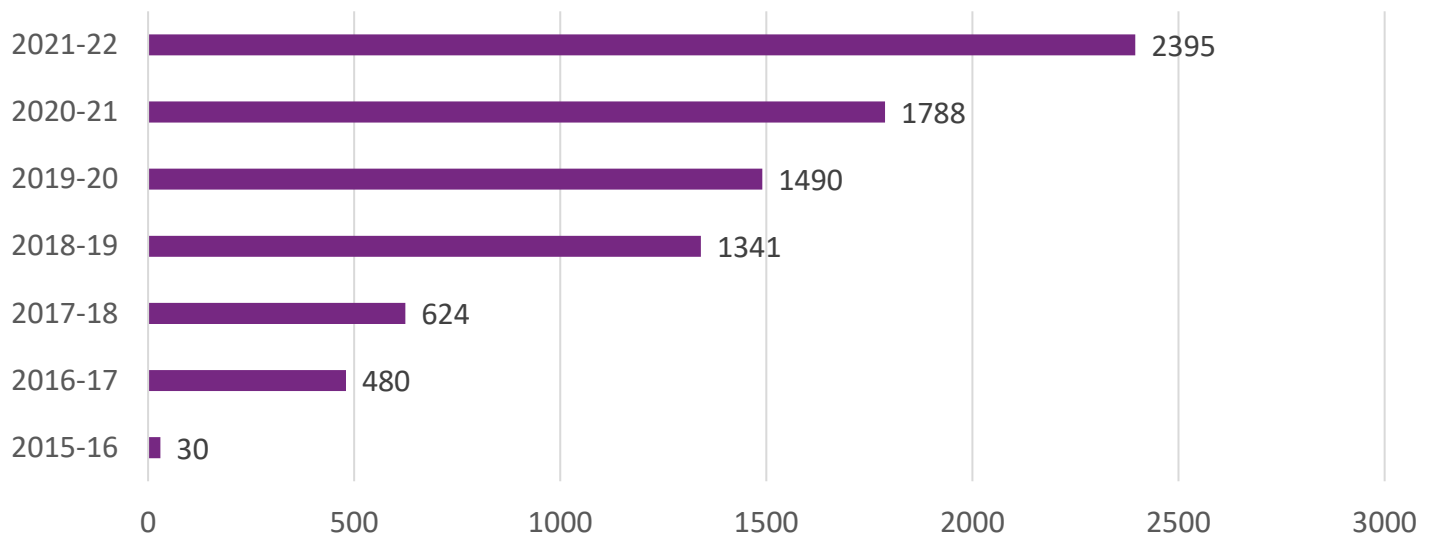


2022 NYSSB graduates from Islip High School
(Photo courtesy of Islip UFSD)

Students Who Earned the NYSSB

The number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Long Island region continued to grow in 2021-22 to 2,394 students, up more than 33% from the prior year.

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

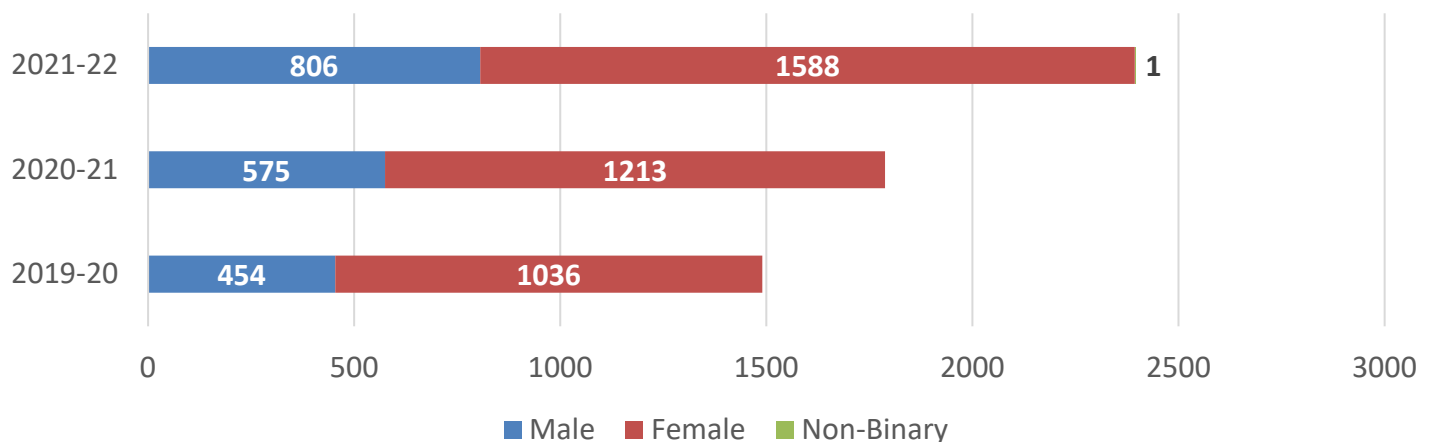


Seal Earners by Gender

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

- Seal earners who identify as male represented only 30% of all NYSSB earners from the region in 2019-20, but rose to 32% in 2020-21, a gain of 2%. 2021-22 saw a similar 2% gain, with students identifying as male representing 34% of all Seal earners.
- Seal earners who identify as female represented 70% of all NYSSB earners from the region in 2019-20, but fell to 68%, a loss of 2%. 2021-22 saw a similar 2% loss, with students identifying as female representing 66% of all Seal earners.
- 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 Long Island in that year, 2021-22 did have one Seal earner from the Long Island region who identified in this way.

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



Seal Earners by Race and Ethnicity

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

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

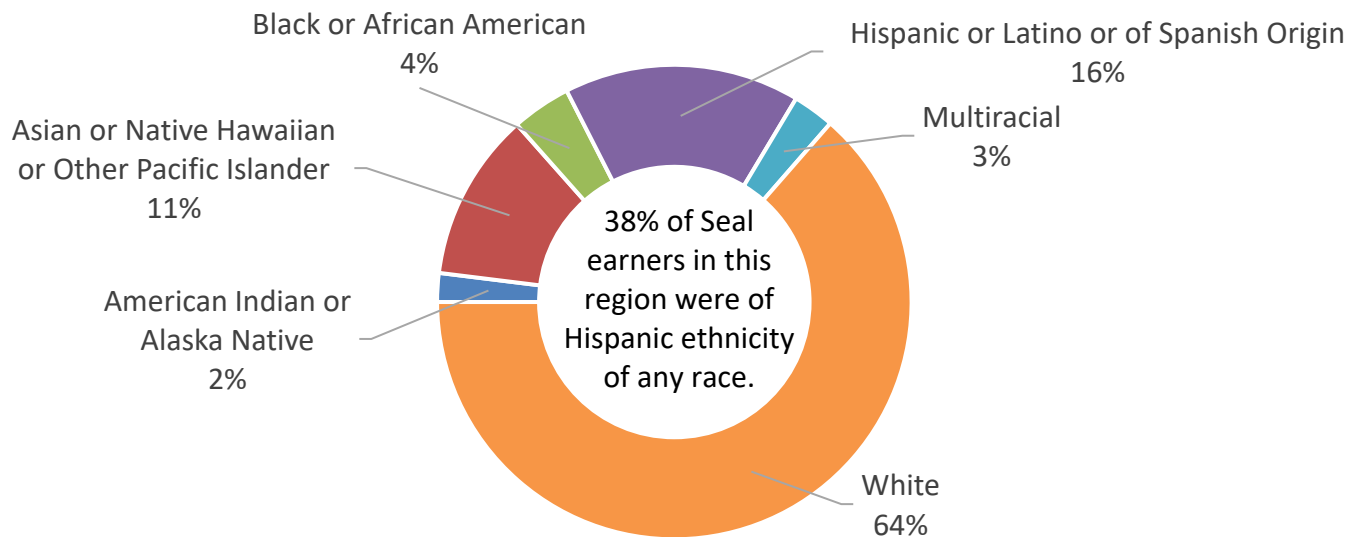


Table 1 below displays the number of Long Island region Seal earners from 2019-20 through 2021-22 disaggregated by race/ethnicity. When considering this last three years' data, we see the following trends:

1. Significant growth occurred in all racial/ethnic groups, with American Indian or Alaska Native Seal earners increasing tenfold in two years.
2. Asian, Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander, and Hispanic Seal earners increased by 60% in 2021-22.
3. Multiracial Seal earners more than doubled in 2021-22.
4. Smaller, but important gains were made in 2021-22 with Black or African American Seal earners (up 15% from last year) and White Seal earners (up almost 24% from last year).

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

Long Island Region	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	34	47
Asian or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	161	172	275
Black or African American	68	84	97
Hispanic or Latino or of Spanish Origin	444	239	386
Multiracial	42	31	68
White	771	1228	1522
TOTAL	1,490	1,788	2,395

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 Long Island Region by ELL Status (2016-2022)

Long Island Region	ELLs	Ever ELLs	Never ELLs (HL=English)	Never ELLs (HL≠ English)	Total
2015-16			30		30
2016-17	26	64	390		480
2017-18	8	103	513		624
2018-19	49	183	1,109		1,341
2019-20	32	266	1,192	0	1,490
2020-21	100	215	1,212	261	1,788
2021-22	174	294	1,619	308	2,395



*2022 NYSSB graduates from Malverne High School
(Photo courtesy of Malverne UFSD)*

Historically in the Long Island 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 Long Island region has increased close to sixfold (174 students) since the first year that ELLs earned the Seal in the region (26 ELLs in 2016-17). To increase number of Current ELLs participating in the NYSSB:

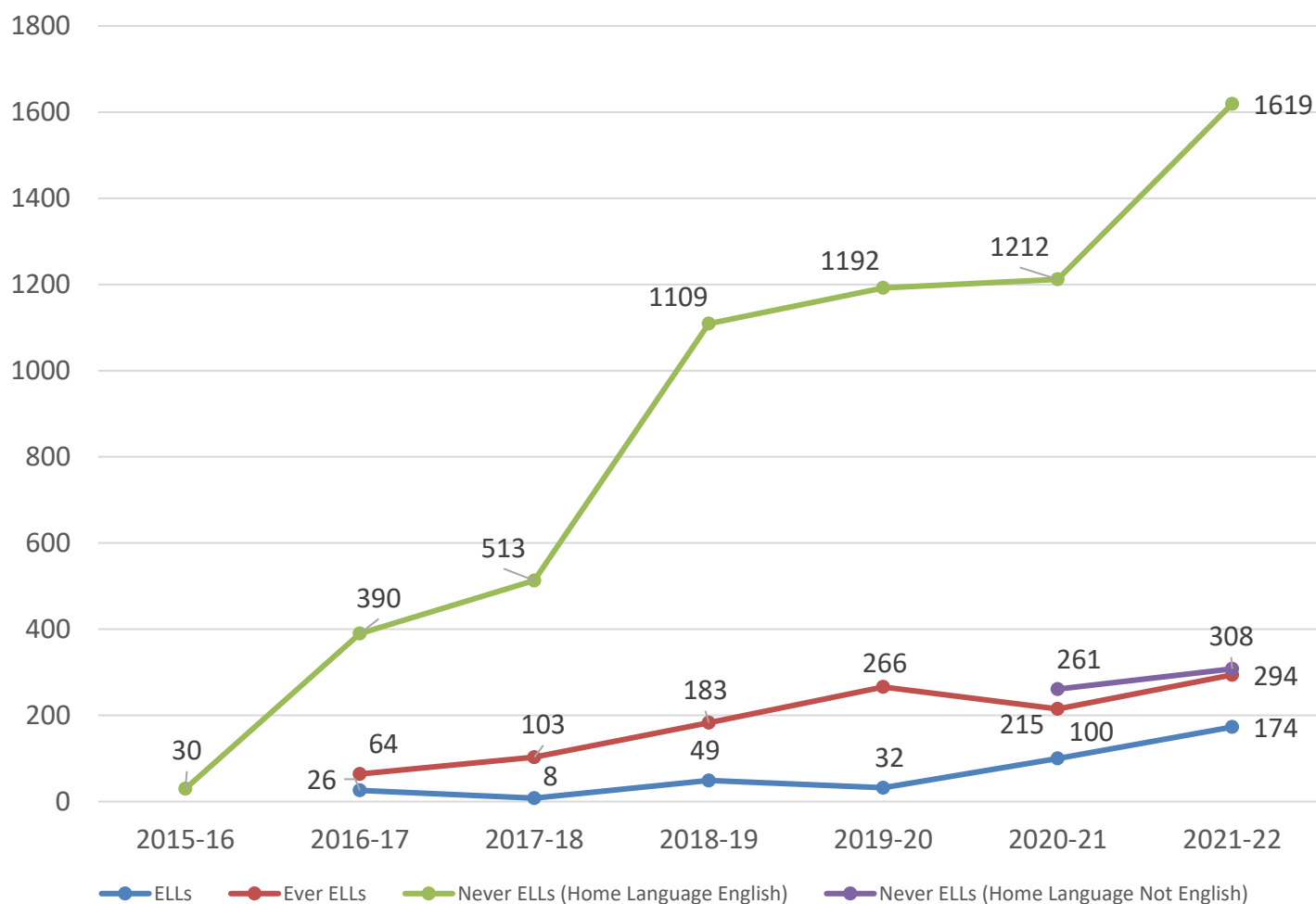
1. More schools in the Long Island region are encouraged to sign on to offer the NYSSB, especially those with significant ELL populations.
2. Schools offering the NYSSB are encouraged to have systems in place to support students' acquisition of English as well as the development of the home language(s) 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 ELLs earning the NYSSB in the Long Island region has experienced healthy growth since 2016-17. In 2021-22, 294 Ever ELLs earned the NYSSB in the Long Island region.

Never ELLs whose home language is English have historically represented the vast majority of Seal earners, not only within the Long Island region, but across New York State. This population of Seal earners has shown the most drastic growth within the region, from 30 Seal earners in the first year the NYSSB was offered to 1,619 in 2021-22, a growth rate of 5300% 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 the 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 were native English speakers, who happened to 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 schools. In the Long Island region, there were 308 Never ELLs whose home language (HL) is other than English who earned the NYSSB in 2021-22. Figure 10 on the following page shows the number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Long Island Region by ELL status from 2016 to 2022.

Figure 10. Number of Students who Earned the NYSSB in the Long Island Region by ELL Status (2016-2022)



(NYSSB plaques and certificates displayed at the 2022 Islip Award Night)



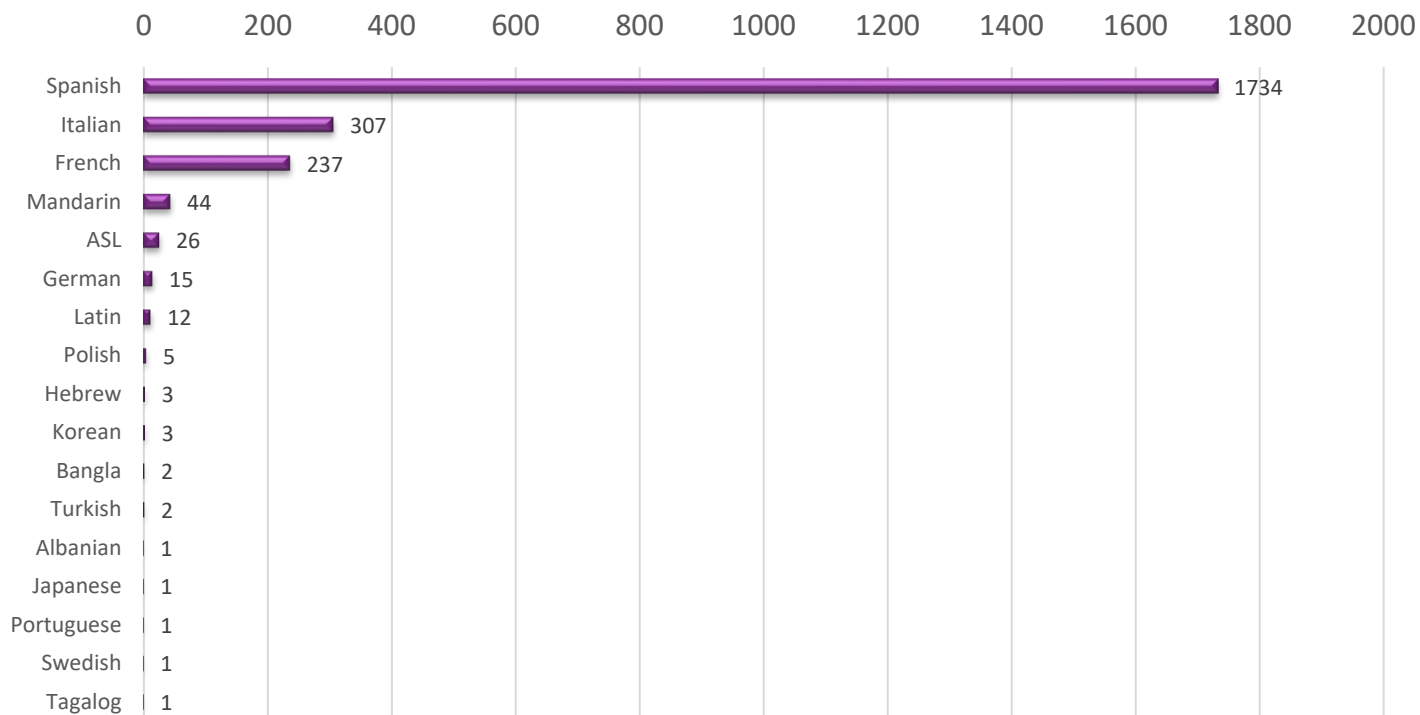
(A cake decorated with the NYSSB logo for the 2022 Islip Award Night)

(Photos courtesy of Islip UFSD)

Seal Earners by Language

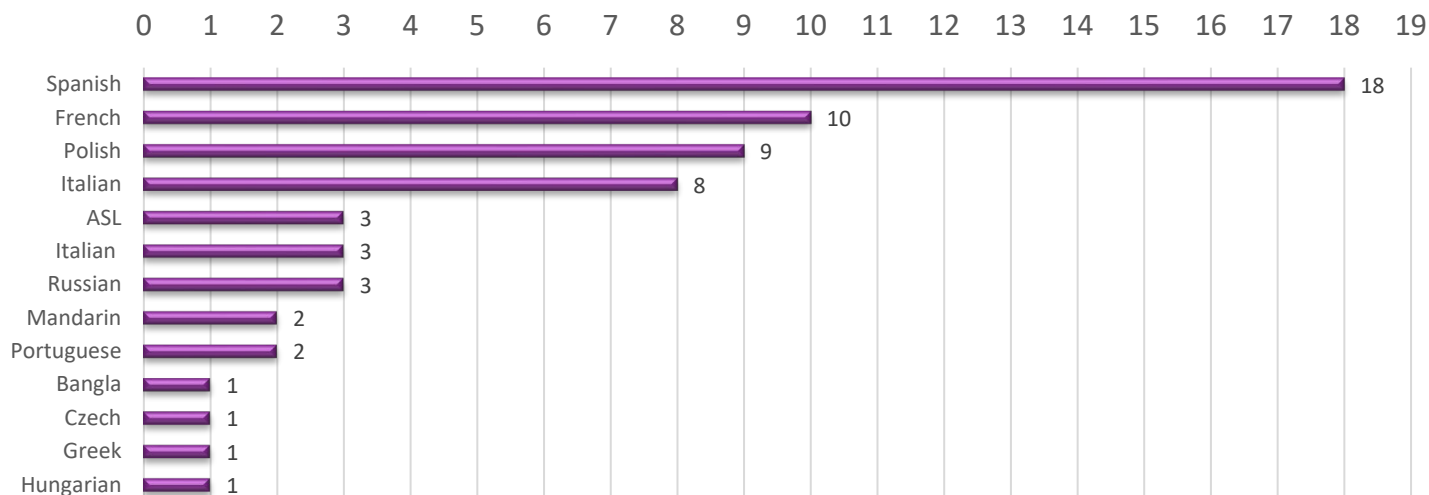
Students from the Long Island region earned the NYSSB in Albanian, American Sign Language, Bangla, Czech, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Tagalog, and Turkish. Figure 11 shows the world languages other than English in which students earned the NYSSB in the Long Island region, ranked from most to least frequent.

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



Sixty-two students were awarded the NYSSB in two world languages in addition to English, as shown in Figure 12. Two students were awarded the NYSSB in three world languages in addition to English.

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

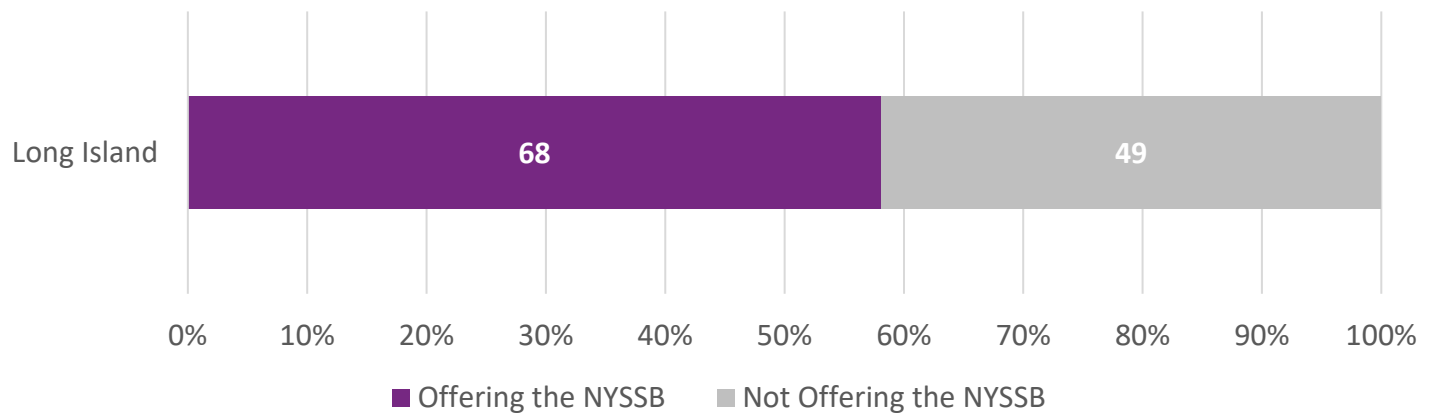


Areas for Potential Growth of the NYSSB in the Long Island Region

Schools

Despite a majority of Long Island district high schools already offering the NYSSB, there is still potential for growth within the region, which has 49 district high schools that did not have a NYSSB program as of 2021-22, as shown in Figure 13 below.

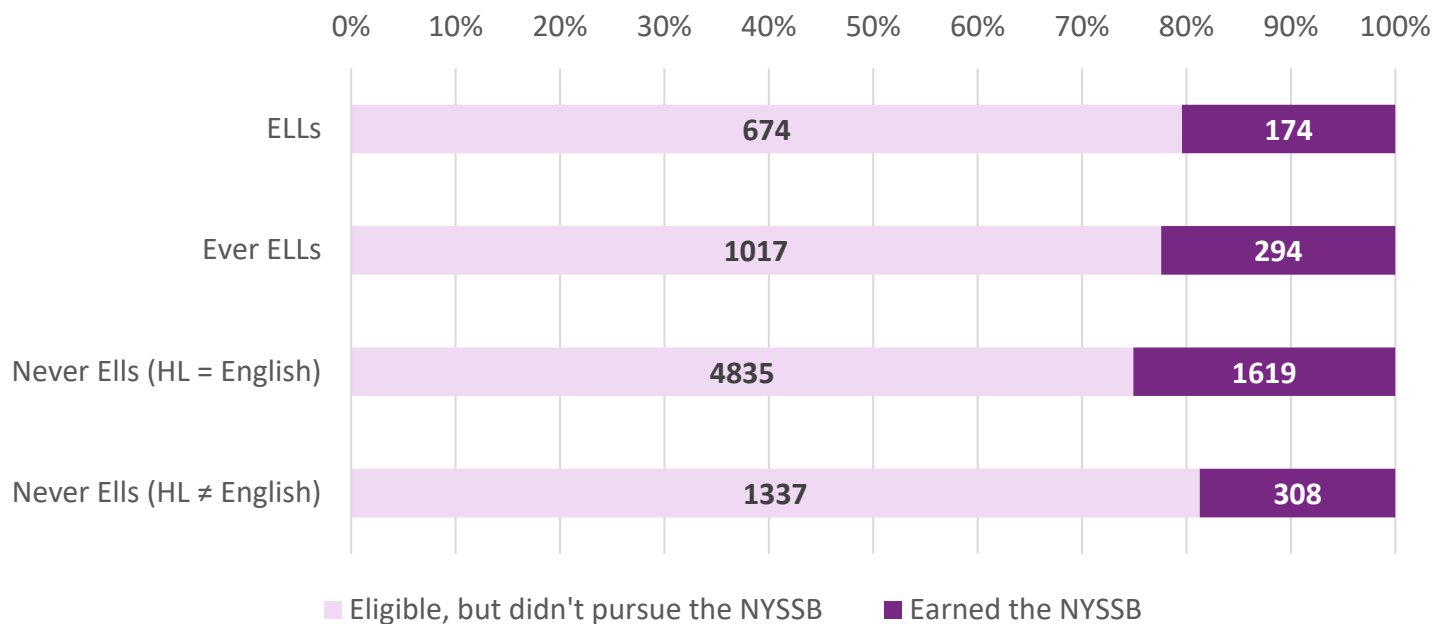
Figure 13. District High Schools in the Long Island Region Offering vs. Not Offering the NYSSB (2021-22)



Students

The number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Long Island region continued to grow in 2021-22 to 2,395 students, up more than 33% from the prior year. Figure 14 below shows the total students in the Long Island 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 Long Island 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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*Ms. Waldbauer, Director of Humanities, and a 2022 NYSSB graduate from Shoreham-Wading River High School
(Photo courtesy of Shoreham-Wading River CSD)*