

California's Multilingual Education Access

Emerging Bilingual Collaborative

California multilingual programs are expanding since 2020.

Multilingual programs across California have seen slow but steady growth since 2020, providing English Language Learners with pathways to stronger academic outcomes and a more inclusive learning environment that celebrates their bilingualism.

Despite this progress, many ELL students remain underserved due to barriers in access, which limit enrollment in these programs and participation in the Seal of Biliteracy.

Fig 1. The number of multilingual programs in California is steadily growing, especially for Dual Language Immersion programs.

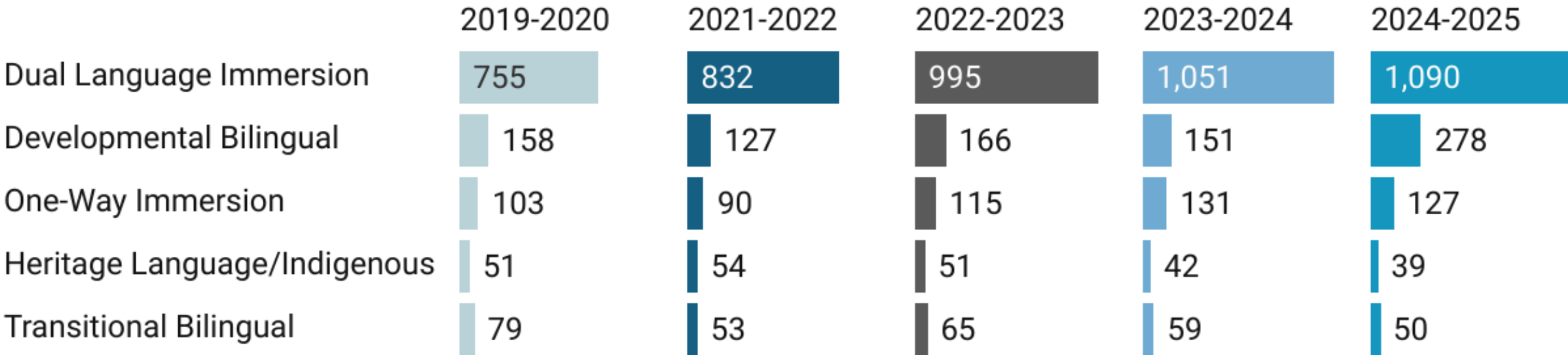


Fig 2. Only 1 in 10 English Learner students were enrolled in a Multilingual Program in 2024-25.

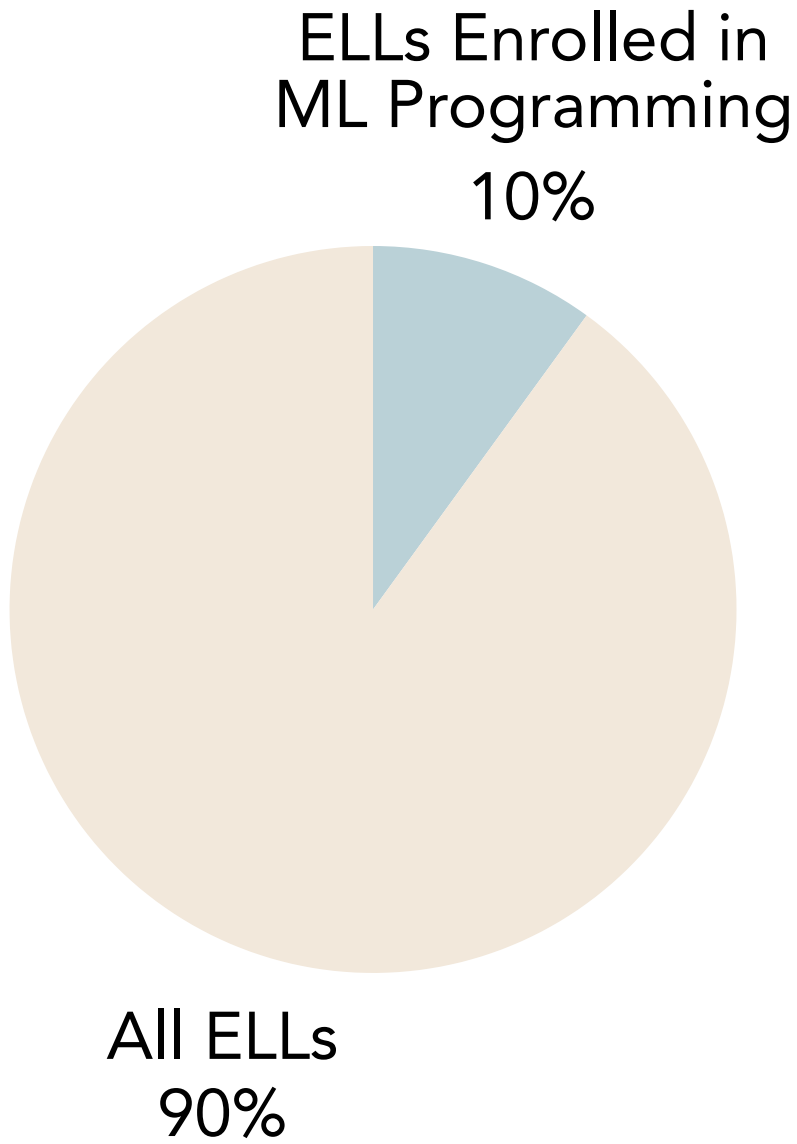


Fig 3. English Learners' participation in the Seal of Biliteracy declined between 2019-2024.



“ In many schools/districts it seems that World Languages are the main path to earn the Seal, as opposed to honoring the linguistic assets multilingual learners bring. - Multilingual Advocate ”