

DISTRICT ENGLISH LEARNER AND REFUGEE REPORT: 2021-22
February 2022

The purpose of this report is to provide analysis of 2021-22 OPS students who participate in the English Learner (EL) program, speak languages other than English in the home, and are refugees to the United States.

KEY POINTS

- OPS K-12 students currently participating in the English Learner (EL) Program includes **10,061** ELs or **20.5%** of the K-12 student population. About **29.7% of elementary** and **12.2% of secondary** students are ELs.
- EL services have been provided to **19,071** or **38.9%** of the K-12 student population.
- The EL program has grown by **60%** percent over the last 10 years. There was an **8.3%** increase in students served from 2020-21 to 2021-22. The total K-12 population in the district also decreased by **2.1%** over the same time period.
- There are **20,628** students in the district who speak **108** different languages other than English in the home, regardless of EL status. This represents **42.09%** of the total K-12 student population.
- There are **2,358** refugee students in the district coming from **17** different countries making up **4.8%** of the K-12 student population.
- The number of refugees is up **45%** over the last ten years with the largest growth coming from Southeast Asian countries.
- This report counts **95** Afghan students enrolled in the school district as of October 2021. As of January 28, 2022, the number of Afghan students in the district has grown to **178**, an increase of **87%** (83 students) in just three months. This number is expected to grow as families are settled in Omaha or relocate to the area.