

Why languages matter in Missouri?

- Provide top-notch education: In 2022-2023, participating districts/schools awarded 1,524 Missouri Seals of Biliteracy and 168 Distinguished Seals of Biliteracy and 36 languages were represented.
- Prepare students for a globalized job market and bring economic opportunities.
- Foster cultural understanding and dialogue, respect for diverse communities, and preservation of linguistic heritage, contributing to our state cultural heritage and history.

Missouri is the show-me state and we have vibrant communities with diverse heritage, traditions, and languages.

- In 2020, Eric Richards, German teacher at Fort Zumwalt School District and, in 2022, Armando Johnson, Spanish teacher at Springfield Public Schools, represented FLAM and Central States as Teachers of the Year at ACTFL.
- In 2023, Knob Noster Public Schools received a WLARP grant. Their program “GEAR UP 4 World Languages” will establish a world language PK-12 pathway in order to graduate students who are globally equipped with proficient world language skills.
- In 2023, 114 school districts offered the Seal of Biliteracy to our students in Missouri and the number continues to grow.

Call to action

- *Co-sponsor, support, and vote in favor of legislation at the federal level that grows language education opportunities in the state of Missouri.
 - *World Language Education Assistance Program (World LEAP) Act ([H.R. 5603](#), [\(Infographic\)](#))
 - *Biliteracy Education Seal and Teaching (BEST) Act ([H.R. 7007/S. 3595](#))
 - *Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Act ([H.R. 4588/S. 2261](#))
 - Support Retaining the Language Attainment Research Provision in the Advancing Research in Education Act (AREA) ([S. 3392](#))
 - Support Full Funding for Key Language Education Programs, including [WLARA](#), [Title III](#), [Title VI](#), and [NALRC](#), and join the America’s Language Caucus.

You are invited to visit language classrooms in action at Lee’s Summit School District, Ladue School District, and Missouri State University.

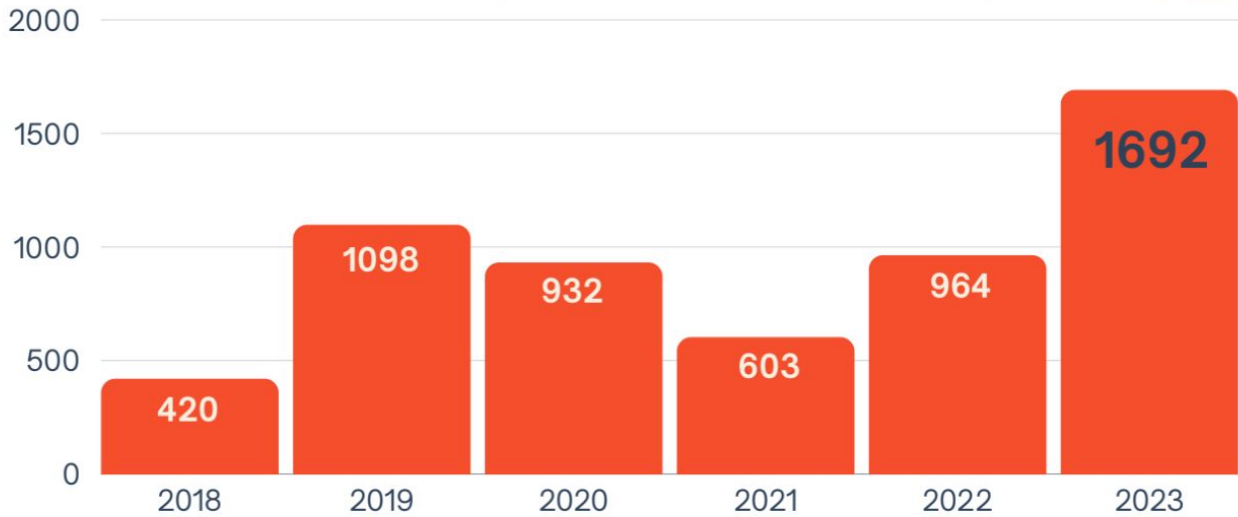
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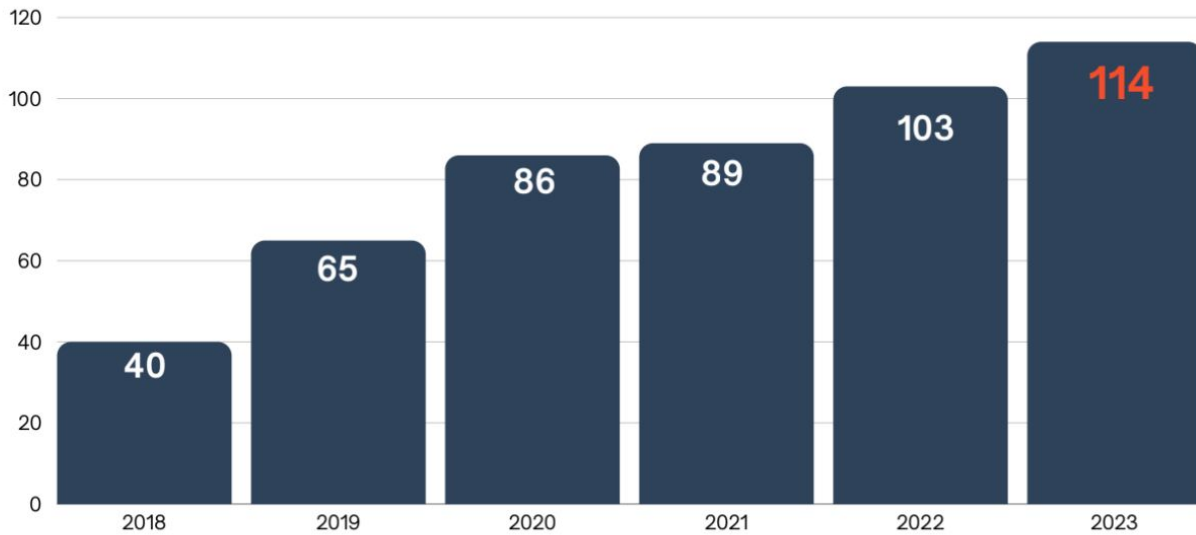
MISSOURI SEAL OF BILITERACY 2022-2023



Students earning the Missouri Seal of Biliteracy



Participating Districts/Schools



36 Languages Represented



Arabic	Dari	Hindi	Mandarin	Russian	Tamil
Bosnian	Filipino	Igbo	Norwegian	Sinhala	Telugu
Chinese (traditional)	French	Italian	Persian	Spanish	Turkish
Chuukese	German	Japanese	Polish	Swahili	Ukrainian
Croatian	Gujarati	Korean	Portuguese	Swedish	Urdu
Danish	Hebrew	Latin	Romanian	Tagalog	Vietnamese