Community-Based Heritage Language Schools in the United States

Results of a National Survey

Working Together
National Survey of Community-Based Heritage Language Schools - 2019

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Reasons for and importance of the survey

GOALS of the SURVEY

• Document community-based schools for all languages across the U.S.

• Be able to add this information to mainstream data and create visibility for community-based heritage language schools

• Make and maintain connections across schools

Why we collected this information at this time

Dates survey was open, who sent to, who responded
Responses - 2019

- 315 total responses
- 284 valid responses

Schools span 29 states. Most schools in:

CA – 68 schools
MA – 24 schools
IL – 20 schools
MD – 19 schools
NJ – 18 schools
VA – 15 schools
NC – 10 schools
PA – 10 schools
36 Languages

- Chinese: 45 programs
- Japanese: 30 programs
- Portuguese: 26 programs
- Bulgarian: 23 programs
- Lithuanian: 23 programs
- German: 24 programs
- Spanish: 18 programs
- Czech: 15 programs
- Hindi: 12 programs
- Russian: 10 programs
- Persian: 10 programs
36 Languages

- Greek: 8 programs
- Slovak: 7 programs
- Korean: 7 programs
- Finnish: 6 programs
- Farsi/Persian: 5 programs
- French: 5 programs
- Ukrainian: 3 programs
- Polish: 3 programs
- Swedish: 2 programs
- Gujrati: 2 programs
- Urdu: 2 programs
- Turkish: 2 programs
36 Languages

- Hebrew 1 program
- Norwegian 1 program
- Passamaquoddy 1 program
- Serbian 1 program
- Hawaiian 1 program
- Camfranglais 1 program
- Sanskrit 1 program
- Bengali 1 program
- Tagalog 1 program
- Ilokano 1 program
- Cebuano 1 program
- Arabic 1 program
- Italian 1 program
Age of Programs

- Less than 10 years: 126
- 10-19 years: 61
- 20-29 years: 32
- 30-39 years: 20
- 40-49 years: 12
- 50-59 years: 10
- 60-69 years: 5
- 70-79 years: 2
- 80+ years: 11

3 schools over 100 years; oldest school: 142 years
Location of Programs

- Private schools 64 programs
- Church, temple based 64 programs
- Public schools 50 programs
- Library, community center 42 programs
- Home or private facility 24 programs

When Classes Meet

- Weekday 67 programs
- Weekend 119 programs
- Whole week 4 programs
How Long (per week) Classes Meet

- 2 hours or less: 107 programs
- 2-5 hours: 125 programs
- 5-10 hours: 19 programs
- More than 10 hours: 9 programs
Number of Classes

• <4 classes  99 programs
• 5-9 classes  81 programs
• 10-19 classes  56 programs
• 20+ classes  28 programs
Number of Students

- Less than 20 students: 50 programs
- 20-39 students: 45 programs
- 40-59 students: 35 programs
- 60-79 students: 32 programs
- 80-99 students: 22 programs
- 100-199 students: 49 programs
- 200-299 students: 16 programs
- More than 300 students: 18 programs*

*7 programs have more than 1000 students
Grade Levels Taught

• Preschool 193 programs
• K-4 240 programs
• 5-8 219 programs
• 9-12 171 programs
• Adults 138 programs

• Pre-school to adult 99 programs
• Pre-school to 12th grade 124 programs
• K-12th grade 147 programs
Heritage Language Students in the Program

- 90-100%: 97 programs
- 70-90%: 65 programs
- 50-70%: 61 programs
- Less than 50%: 30 programs
- Less than 25%: 30 programs
Number of Teachers

- <10 teachers: 168 programs
- 10-19 teachers: 68 programs
- 20-29 teachers: 17 programs
- >29 teachers: 26 programs
## Teacher Training

<table>
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<th>Degree in Language ed.</th>
<th>Degree in Teacher ed.</th>
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<td>All teachers</td>
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<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over 90% of teachers</td>
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<td>Over 70% of teachers</td>
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<td>More than half of teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than half of teachers</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than 25% of teachers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Exams Taken by Students

• AP preparation – 60 programs
• AP exams – 6 programs
• AAT preparation – 18 programs
• AAT exams – 18 programs
• OPI and other preparation – 12 programs
• OPI and other exams – 5 program
• Standard exam preparation from country government – 57 programs
• Standard exam from country government – 24 programs
• Country government exam preparation for abroad students – 61 programs
• Country government exam for abroad students – 35 programs
• Do not prepare for any exam – 107 programs
• Do not take any exam – 58 programs
Tuition Charges

• 252 programs charge tuition
• 30 programs do not charge tuition

Tuition per year:
• $50-$250 – 58 programs
• $251-$750 – 115 programs
• $751-$1,000 – 26 programs
• $1,001-$1,250 – 18 programs
• More than $1,250 – 33 programs
Other Opportunities and Activities Offered

• Offered in 217 programs
  179 programs – traditional holiday events
  152 programs – family events and community dinners
  104 programs – other classes
  86 programs – lectures
  76 programs – excursions, visits to museums, etc.
  56 programs – films

Others include sports, dance, music, yoga, art, math, science, cooking, skiing, camping, concerts, fitness, workshop, concert, and cultural events

• Not offered in 65 programs
Let’s reach out to all heritage language schools!

- If you have not completed the survey, please go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HLProgram

- Please let your language community and community-based schools know about it!

Let’s document all community-based heritage language programs in all languages taught in the United States!