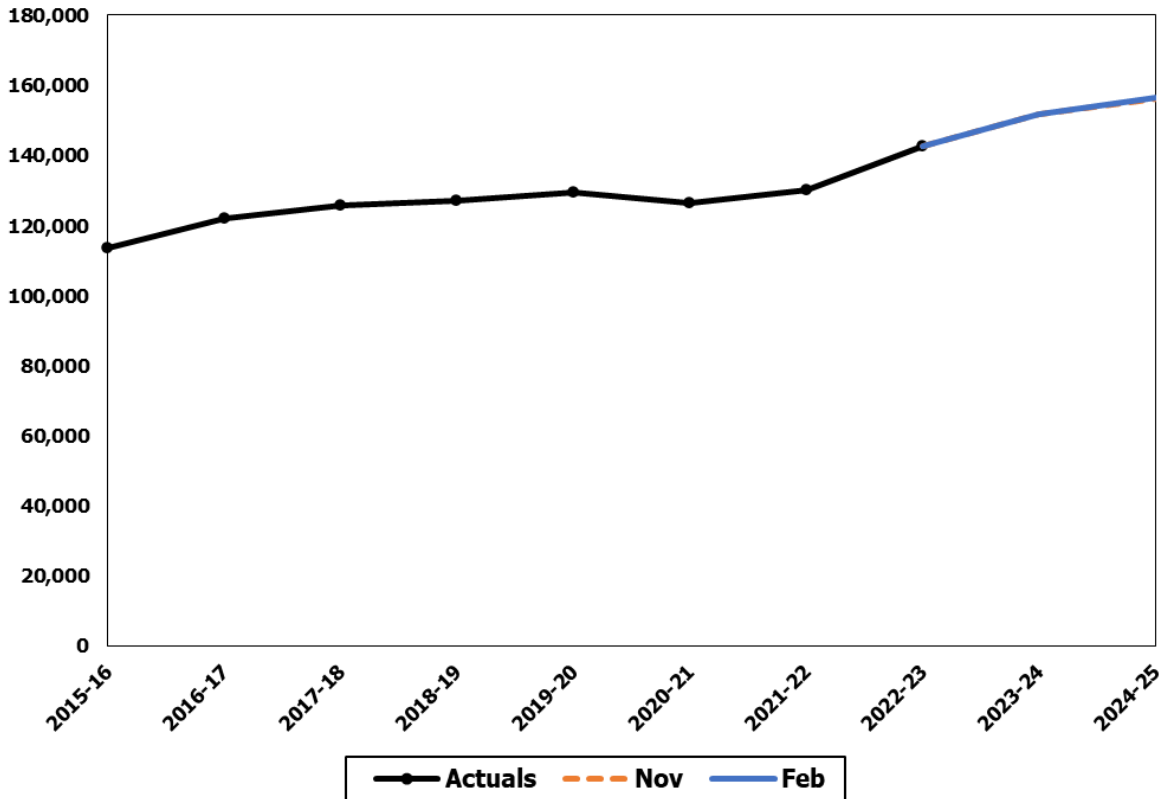


Bilingual Education Average Annual Enrollment (HC)



The Common Schools Bilingual Education caseload forecast consists of students enrolled in the Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program (TBIP). The goal of the TBIP program is to develop a student’s proficiency in the English language.

Forecast Comparisons (Academic Year Averages)

Academic Year	Nov-23 Forecast	Feb-24 Forecast	Nov to Feb Difference	Percent Difference
2023-24	151,652	151,810	158	0.1%
2024-25	156,004	156,590	586	0.4%

The February 2024 forecast is, on average, 372 students above the November forecast or on par for the 2023-25 Biennium.

Tracking the Current Forecast

Month	Nov-23		Variance	Percent
	Forecast	Actual		Variance
Nov-23	148,550	149,121	571	0.4%
Dec-23	149,957	150,238	281	0.2%
Jan-24	150,761	150,860	99	0.1%

Actuals are tracking, on average, 317 students or 0.2 percent above the November forecast, which is on par.

Academic Year Caseload Change

	Academic Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
Actual	2015-16	113,676		
	2016-17	122,074	8,398	7.4%
	2017-18	125,775	3,701	3.0%
	2018-19	127,154	1,379	1.1%
	2019-20	129,601	2,447	1.9%
	2020-21	126,427	-3,174	-2.4%
	2021-22	130,199	3,772	3.0%
	2022-23	142,642	12,443	9.6%
Forecast	2023-24	151,810	9,168	6.4%
	2024-25	156,590	4,780	3.1%

The TBIP forecast is sensitive to testing policies, job growth, US immigration policies and VISA processing, and families moving to Washington State from other US states. The COVID-19 pandemic and remote/hybrid instruction lowered the 2020-21 caseload, followed by a recovery the next year. By 2022-23, the caseload grew 9.6 percent, or 12,443 students. Growth was driven by fewer students demonstrating proficiency on the spring exam, a requirement for program exit, due to use of a new exit exam and pandemic learning loss. The caseload also increased due to students relocating in Washington State from Ukraine and Afghanistan.

The 2023-24 forecast assumed an increase of 9,168 or 6.4 percent year-over-year. The student exit rate for spring of 2022 remained lower than the pre-pandemic average. At the same time, additional students have entered the program due to increases in immigration. Federal data indicates a rise in nonimmigrant worker and academic student visas for Washington state, as well as the visas for their children and spouses. Similarly, Washington state has also received an increase in resettlements of refugees, Special Immigrant VISAs, and people arriving through Temporary Protected Status.

The forecast assumes growth again in 2024-25. This will be offset by an assumed increase in exits from a recent OSPI policy change. As a result, the caseload for 2024-25 is forecasted to increase year-over-year by 4,780 students or 3.1 percent.

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to the Bilingual Education forecast are high given the implementation of a new testing system, COVID-19, and changes in immigration policy and processing of immigrant VISAs.

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