

Imagine Language & Literacy Students in Grades 1–5 Show Significant Gains on the WIDA™ ACCESS for ELLs® Assessment

OVERVIEW

During the 2019–2020 academic year, a public school district in Florida implemented Imagine Language & Literacy in 34 elementary schools with their English language learners (ELLs). The district assigned 803 students in Grades 1–5 to use the program. Students were assigned to the program if they scored at Level 1 (Entering) or Level 2 (Emerging) on the February 2019 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs. No students in the sample scored Proficient on the 2019 assessment.¹ Students used Imagine Language & Literacy for an average of 35 hours during the 2019–2020 academic year. To measure growth in English language proficiency, Imagine Learning collected and analyzed February 2019 and February 2020 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs assessment data.

Public School District, FL Demographics (N = 803)

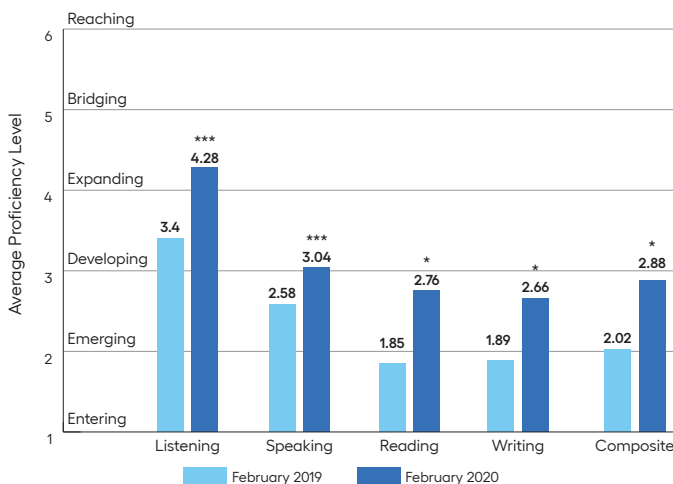
Male	56%
Hispanic	90%
Black	6%
Asian	2%
White (Non-Hispanic)	<2%
Other	<1%
Special Education	28%

RESULTS

Results showed students made significant gains on the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs assessment from 2019 to 2020 (Figure 1). Notably, 325 students (40% of the total sample) increased one or more proficiency levels from February 2019 to February 2020; 14% of students scored Proficient in February 2020, according to Florida’s proficiency metrics. See Table 1 for WIDA ACCESS for ELLs composite scaled scores and percentages of students increasing one or more proficiency levels by grade level.

Figure 1. Average Proficiency Level by Domain on the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Assessment, 2019–2020

Florida Imagine Language & Literacy Students, Grades 1–5 (N = 803)



Note: *p < .05, ***p < .001.

Table 1. Average WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Composite Scaled Scores and Percentage of Students Increasing One or More Proficiency Level by Grade Level, 2019–2020

Florida Imagine Language & Literacy Students, Grades 1–5 (N = 803)

Grade	n	February 2019 Composite Scaled Score	February 2020 Composite Scaled Score	Percentage of Students Increasing One or More Proficiency Levels
1	350	189	270	59%
2	229	250	287	21%
3	134	259	299	26%
4	52	261	311	37%
5	38	268	312	42%

¹Florida defines Proficient as a WIDA ACCESS for ELLs composite score at or above 4.0 and a Reading score at or above 4.0.