



Question: What languages are spoken in the homes of AISD English language learners and immigrant students, and is information provided to AISD families in the home language?

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Response: AISD reported the following preliminary information regarding recent immigrant students and Limited English Proficient students/English Language Learners (LEP/ELLs) in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Fall submission for AISD for the 2006-2007 school year. The PEIMS data standards utilize the definition for immigrant found in Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), where the term ‘immigrant children and youth’ is defined as, “individuals who are aged 3 through 21; were not born in any state; and have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more states for more than 3 full academic years.” The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will finalize the 2006-2007 data from school districts in the summer. AISD reported 20,782 ELLs and 3,834 recent immigrants to the TEA in January 2007. The number of recent immigrant students included 192 students who were sufficiently proficient in English and were not eligible to receive bilingual education or English as a Second Language (ESL) program services. The remaining recent immigrant students were included in the count of the district’s ELLs. The number of languages spoken by recent immigrant students was 48 and the number of languages spoken by ELLs was 63. The TEA list of language codes contains a general category that includes many languages, and some AISD recent immigrant students and ELLs were assigned to that category. Tables 1 and 2 present the three highest incidence languages spoken by speakers of those respective languages.

Table 1: Numbers and Percentages of AISD ELLs and the Languages Spoken by Them, 2006-2007

Language	Numbers of Speakers	Percentages of Speakers
Spanish	19,342	93.0%
Vietnamese	271	1.3%
Korean	175	<1.0%
All Other Languages	994	4.7%
Total	20,782	100.0%

Source: AISD PEIMS Resubmission, January 2007

Table 2: Numbers and Percentages of AISD Recent Immigrant Students and the Languages Spoken by Them, 2006-2007

Language	Numbers of Speakers	Percentages of Speakers
Spanish	3,249	84.7%
Korean	135	3.5%
Vietnamese	42	1.1%
All Other Languages	408	10.6%
Total	3,834	100.0%

Source: AISD PEIMS Resubmission, January 2007

Question: Is information provided to AISD families in the home language?

Response: The 2006-2007 AISD Parent Survey was conducted during the Fall 2006 semester. Parents across the district had the opportunity to provide feedback regarding their experiences with their child’s school. Paper surveys were distributed to each parent, and a web version was available through the AISD website. The survey was available in three languages: English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. A total of 14,662 parents responded, of whom 65% responded in English, 34% in Spanish, and 0.6% in Vietnamese. In addition to items addressing experiences with campus staff, safety, parent involvement, and the parent’s goals for their child, several items addressed the kinds and quality of information that parents receive from the school. For 2006-2007, the following question addressed the home language: “School staff provide me with information in my home language.” Responses to this item were given on a 4 point scale, ranging from “1=Strongly Disagree” to “4=Strongly Agree.”¹ Participants also had the option to indicate, “Don’t know/NA.”

Results for all respondents can be found in Table 3 and results for each version of the survey can be found in Table 4. Most but not all parents (76.4%) responded that they received information in their home language, which may reflect the diversity of home languages spoken in AISD. When interpreting these results, it is important to note that parents may have completed the survey in one language but in fact speak another language at home. Hence, the 1,162 respondents who responded that they do not receive information in their home language may not have been referring to English, Spanish, or Vietnamese. Because information about their particular home language was not collected on this survey, it is not possible to identify where the particular gaps may be.

Table 3: Frequencies and Percentages of Responses to the Parent Survey Item “School staff provide me with information in my home language” for All Respondents

	Frequencies	Percentages
Disagree	1,162	7.9%
Agree	11,208	76.4%
Don't know/NA	2,291	15.6%
No Response	1	< 1.0%
Total	14,662	100.0%

Source: 2006-2007 AISD Parent Survey

Table 4: Frequencies and Percentages of Responses to the Parent Survey Item “School staff provide me with information in my home language” by Survey Language

	English		Spanish		Vietnamese	
	Frequencies	Percentages	Frequencies	Percentages	Frequencies	Percentages
Disagree	627	6.6%	533	10.6%	2	2.0%
Agree	7,099	74.3%	4,021	80.3%	88	88.0%
Don't Know/NA	1,827	19.1%	454	9.1%	10	10.0%
Total	9,553	100.0%	5,008	100.0%	100	100.0%

Source: 2006-2007 AISD Parent Survey

¹ Note: For ease of interpretation, “Strongly Disagree” and “Disagree” were collapsed into one category, as were “Strongly Agree” and “Agree.”