



# Illinois School Funding Reform Commission

## *Approaching School Funding Reform and Bilingual Education*

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November 17, 2016



# Illinois approach to bilingual education

- Illinois law has required the provision of bilingual education services since 1973
- State requires two different program models
  - Transitional bilingual education
  - Transitional program of instruction

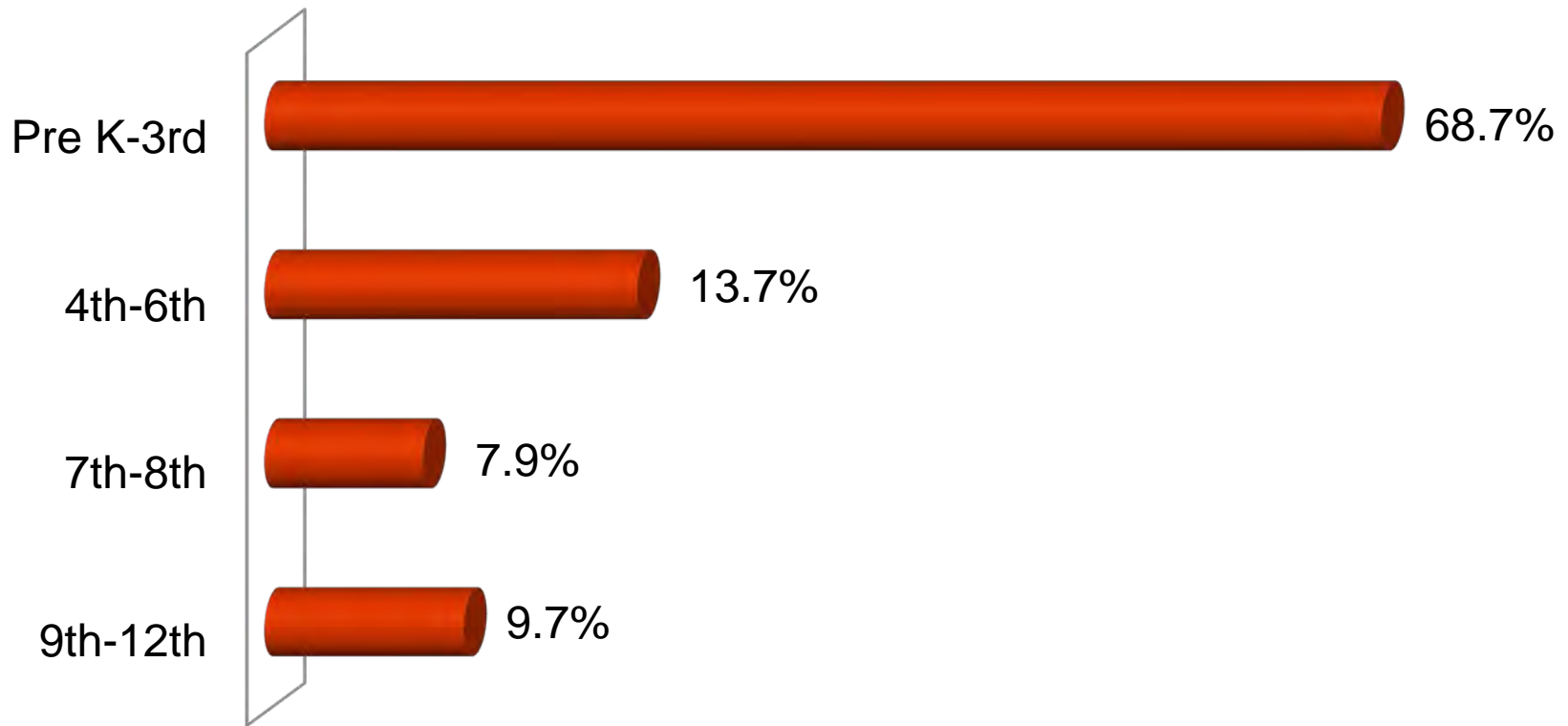


# The number of English learners in IL

- 206,209 English learners in FY16
- The number of ELs has grown by more than 30 percent since 2005
- 10.4 percent of all students in Illinois
- ELs are being served in more than 80 counties



# English learners by grade span



Source: Illinois State Board of Education, *ELL Student Statistical Reports* (2013) Analysis by the Latino Policy Forum, Chicago, IL

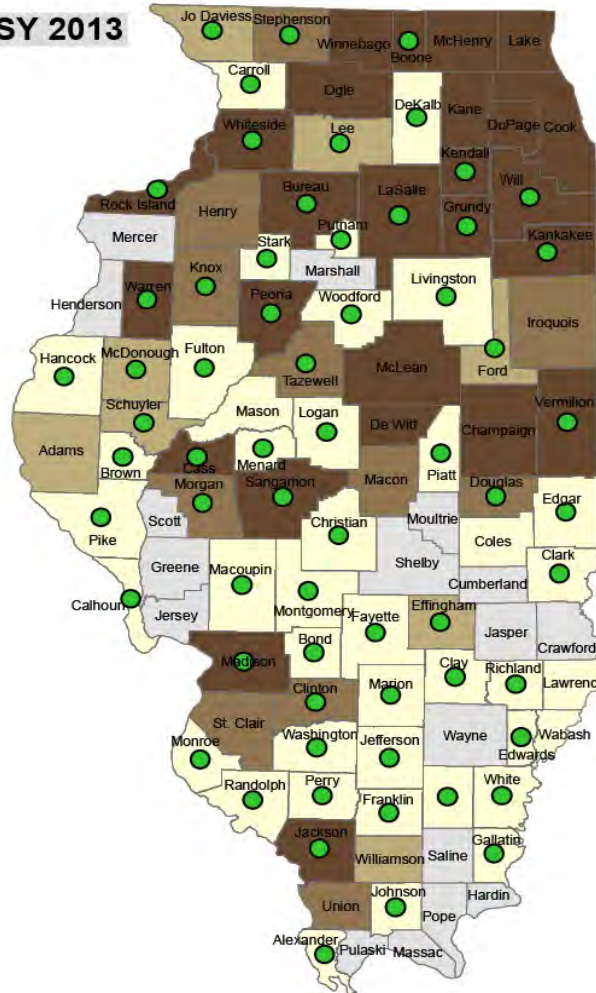


# English learners across Illinois

SY 2005



SY 2013



Number of ELs (PreK-12)  
(Per County)

- 1 - 20
- 21 - 60
- 61 - 150
- Greater than 150
- No ELs Reported
- Greater than 100% Growth from 2005-2013

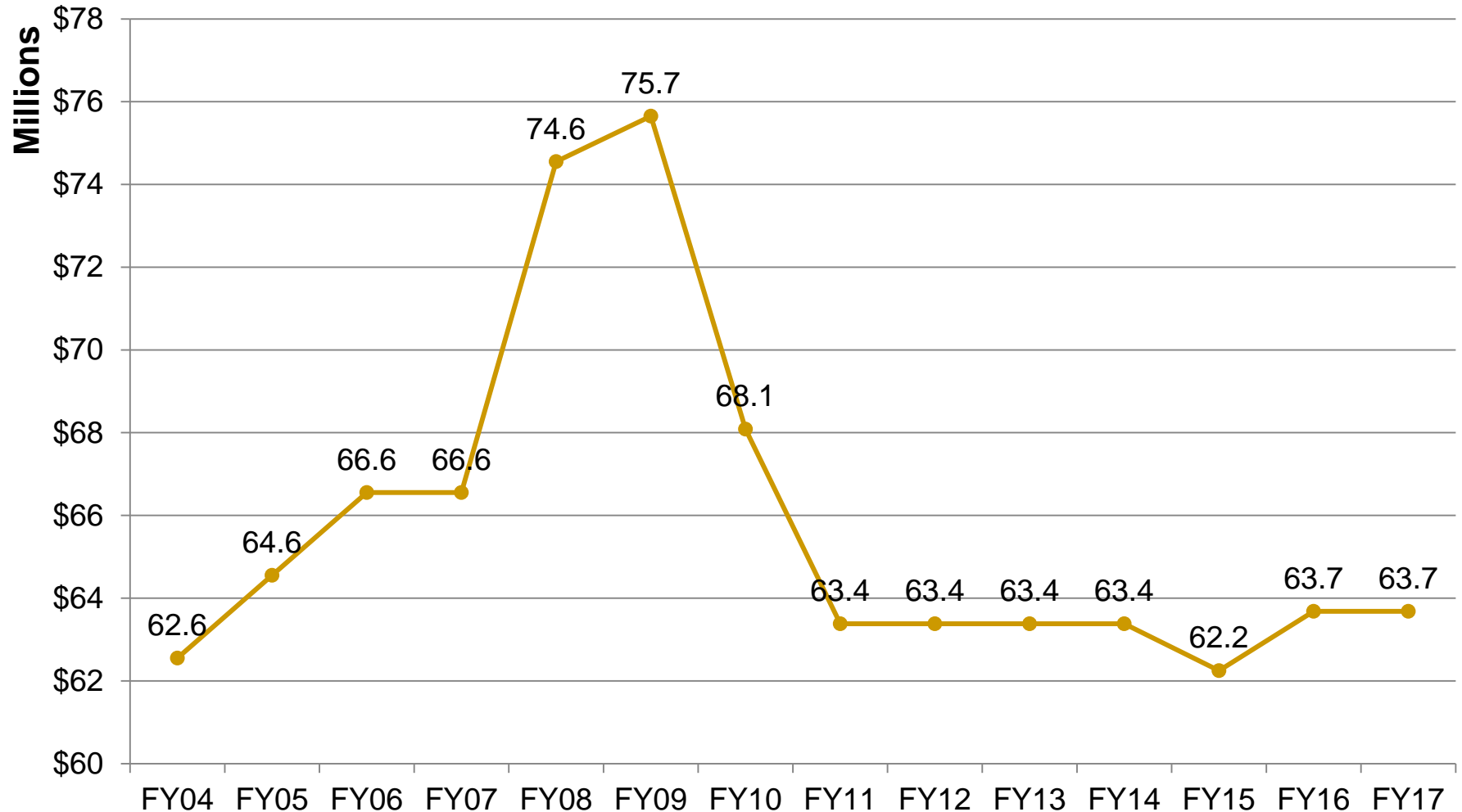
65 counties experienced greater than 100% growth in EL students from 2005 to 2013

Top 15 by Number of EL Increase (SY 05-13)

Rank	Name	Increase	Increase (%)	2005 EL	2013 EL
1	Cook	18,445	18%	102,332	120,777
2	Kane	6,650	44%	15,148	21,798
3	Lake	4,767	38%	12,464	17,231
4	DuPage	4,549	39%	11,747	16,296
5	Will	4,471	121%	3,684	8,155
6	Winnebago	1,695	72%	2,351	4,046
7	McHenry	1,502	71%	2,116	3,618
8	Rock Island	1,110	126%	878	1,988
9	Kendall	883	184%	479	1,362
10	Kankakee	783	380%	206	989
11	Champaign	758	94%	808	1,566
12	Peoria	670	221%	303	973
13	Boone	582	110%	527	1,109
14	Madison	577	319%	181	758
15	LaSalle	470	205%	229	699



# State Funding for Bilingual Education





## **Under-investing in bilingual education**

- Bilingual education is prorated at 63 percent because the total cost of reimbursable expenses exceeds the state appropriation.
- Fully funding bilingual education would cost \$100.9 million, an increase of \$37.2 million from the FY17 appropriation.



# Criteria for evaluating reform models

1. Does it maintain article 14C of the school code?
1. Does it require ISBE to review and approve school districts' bilingual education programs?
1. Does it increase the state's investment in ELs?
1. Does it require districts to account for the use of resources intended to serve ELs?





# Comparison of reform models

## State funding for bilingual education under different reform models

	Funding Illinois Future Proposal (SB231)	Evidence-Based Model (HB3190)
Method of state support for bilingual education	Variable in a funding formula	Unclear
Student weight applied to English learners	0.2	Unclear
State funding determined by individual student count	Yes	Yes
Does the reform maintain non-funding provisions of Article 14C?	Yes	Unclear
Does the reform require ISBE to preapprove school districts bilingual education programs?	Yes	Unclear
Does the reform increase state funding for bilingual education	Yes, funding would exceed \$75 million	Unclear
Does the reform require accounting and reporting on resources associated with ELS?	Yes	Unclear