

19 Is Not Enough: Arbitrary Threshold for Bilingual Education Funding Excluded 11,000 Children in Connecticut

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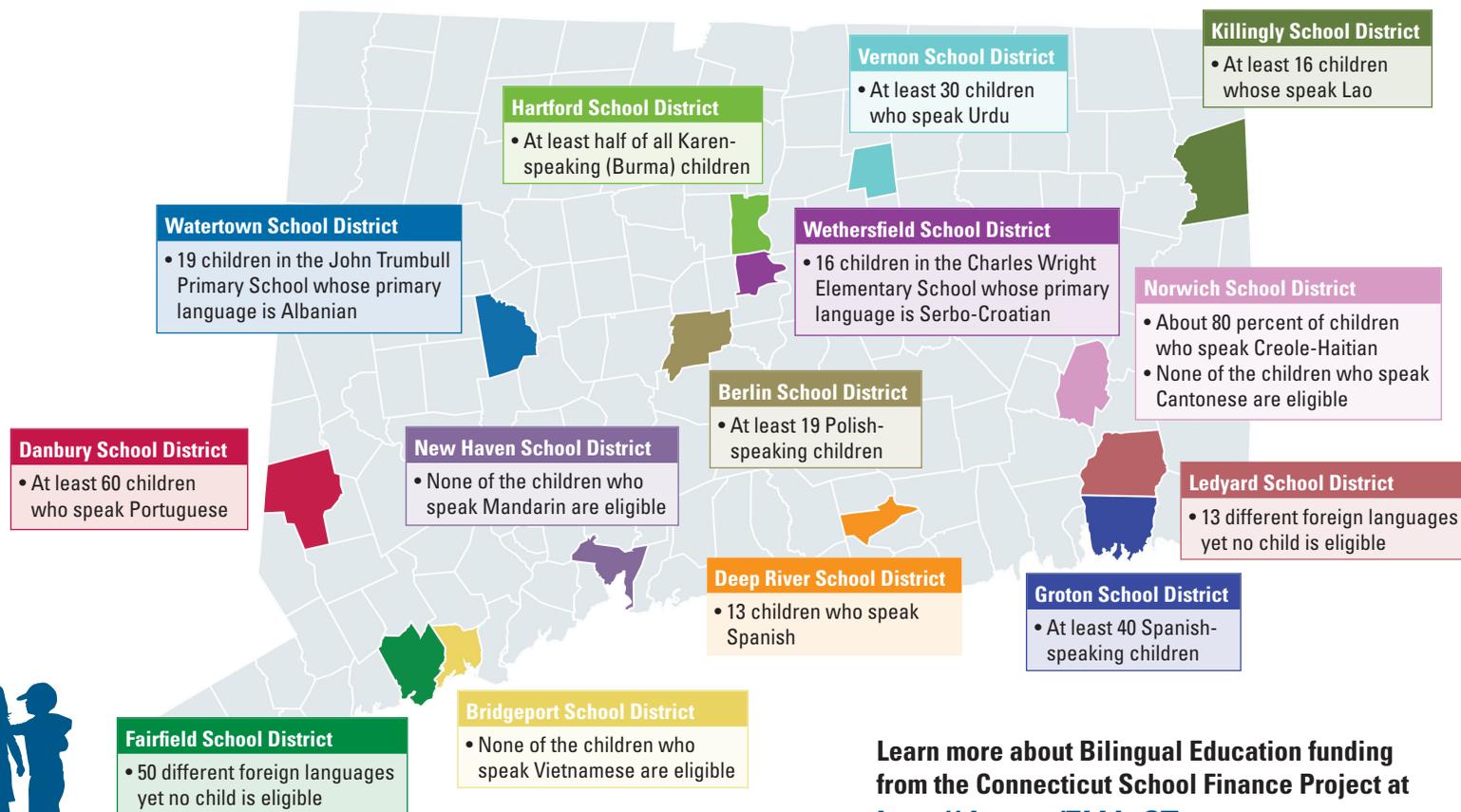
The state funds bilingual education only in a SCHOOL that has **AT LEAST 20 English Language Learners speaking the SAME foreign language.***

Consequences: In the 2013–2014 school year, more than one-third (10,960 out of 31,178) of English language learners (ELLs) in K–12 public schools were not eligible for state funded bilingual education because of where they went to school.

* In 2012, the federal government funded approximately \$180 per student/year to teach English to foreign-language students in K–12 in Connecticut, which is insufficient funding to teach English.



Examples of Children Who Do Not Receive State Funding to Learn English



Learn more about Bilingual Education funding from the Connecticut School Finance Project at <http://tiny.cc/ELLinCT>

“The 20 student minimum is an arbitrary threshold that prevents roughly 11,000 English Language Learners in Connecticut schools from obtaining the appropriate instruction they need to succeed.”

— Werner Oyanadel, Executive Director, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission

“Connecticut public schools are not required to report their spending on higher need students, such as ELLs. As a result, it is impossible to determine total spending on ELL students across the state.”

— Katie Roy, Director, Connecticut School Finance Project

“All children should have equal access to education as every child is important. The current system doesn’t allow for 11,000 children in Connecticut to obtain bilingual education in order to address some of their language needs, this creates more educational disparities.”

— Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Executive Director, Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission



<http://www.cga.ct.gov/lprac/>



<http://www.ctschoolfinance.org/>



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