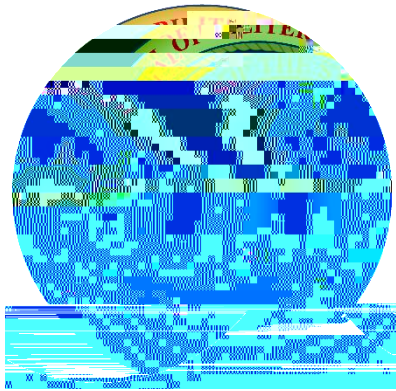


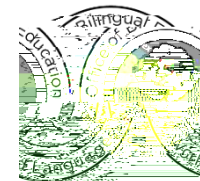
The New York State Seal of Biliteracy in the Western Region



2020-21 Report

Office of Bilingual Education
and World Languages

New York State Education Department

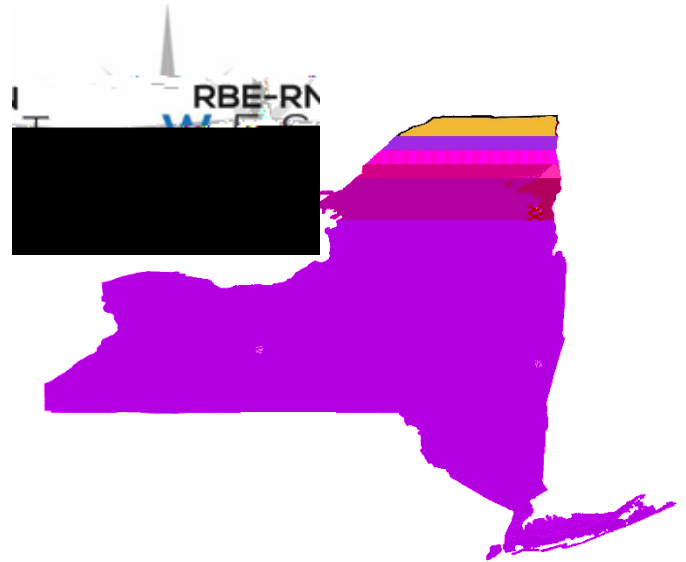


The Western Region

The Western region, represented by the area in orange on the map on the right, is made up of the counties of: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, and Orleans.

The Western region is supported by the Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (RBERN) West at Erie 1 BOCES. This RBERN provides services to 101 districts, including professional learning on high-quality instruction and assessment practices that support academic the achievement for English Language Learners (ELLs), technical assistance and workshops for the design and implementation of educational programs for ELLs, as well as workshops on state and federal laws, regulations, and policies, and a support network of resources and collaboration for the education of ELLs. The goal of the RBERN is to enhance the knowledge and competencies of educators, parents, and community members in order to promote the academic excellence of ELLs.

Figure 1. Map of New York State by Region with the Western Region Highlighted (Image downloaded from: <https://www.nysrbernondemand.org/> on 12/16/21.)



RBERN West, Erie 1 BOCES
355 Harlem Rd, Building C, West Seneca, NY 14224, Tel: (716) 821-7531
Website: <http://www.rbernwest.e1b.org>, Email: RBERNwest@e1b.org

This Western region is also serviced by the following BOCES shown in Figure 2 below:

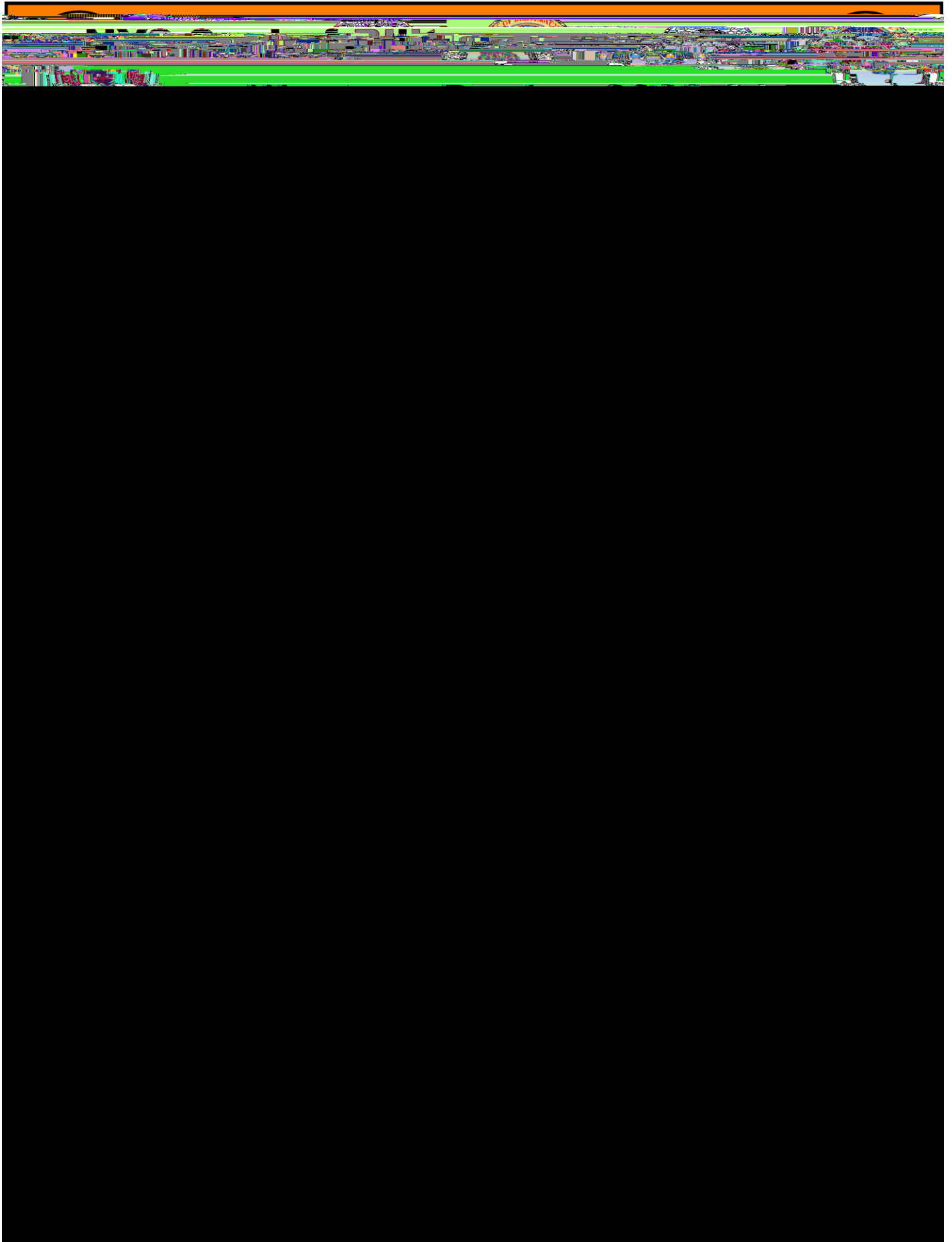
- [Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Counties and BOCES](#)
- [Erie County and BOCES \(Erie 1\)](#)
- [Erie-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Counties and BOCES \(Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus\)](#)
- [Orleans-Niagara Counties and BOCES](#)

Figure 2. Map of New York State by County with BOCES Pinned (Image downloaded from: <https://www.boces.org/contact-a-boces/> on 12/16/21.)



An infographic summary of the NYSSB in the Western region for 2020-21 can be found on the following two pages in Figure 3.

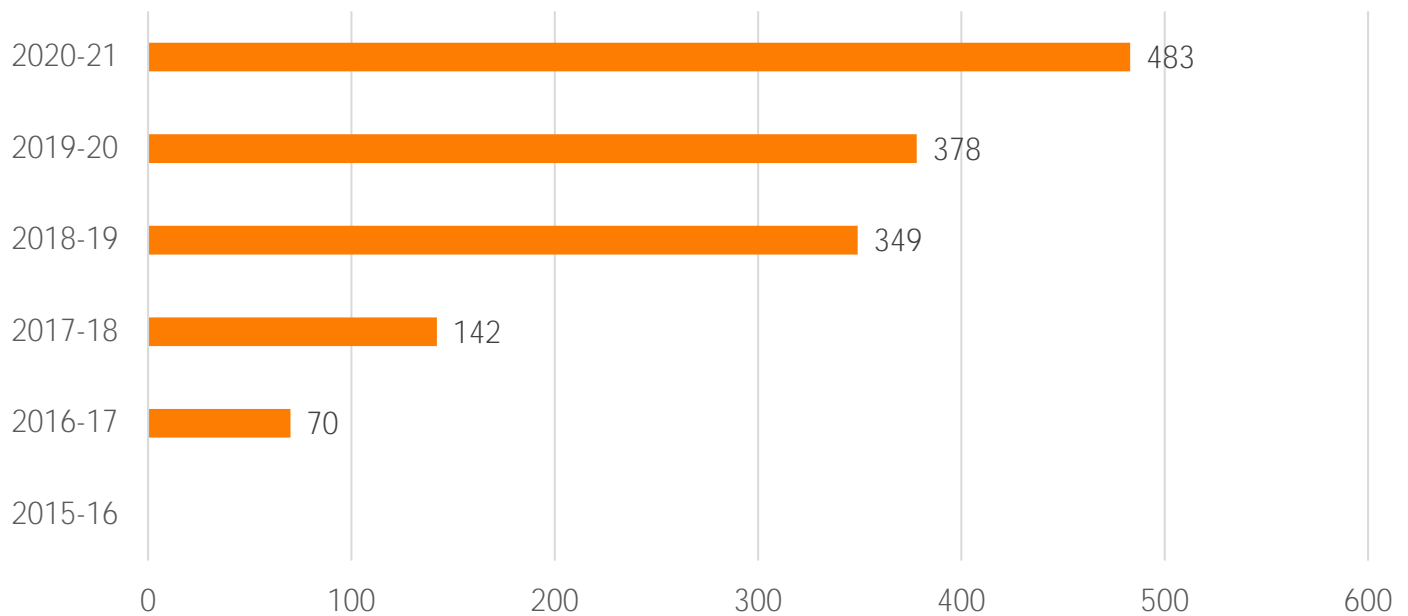
Figure 3. Infographic Summary of the NYSSB in the Western Region (2021)



Students Who Earned the NYSSB

The number of students who earned the NYSSB in the Western region grew substantially in 2020-21 to 483 students, up more than 27% from the prior year.

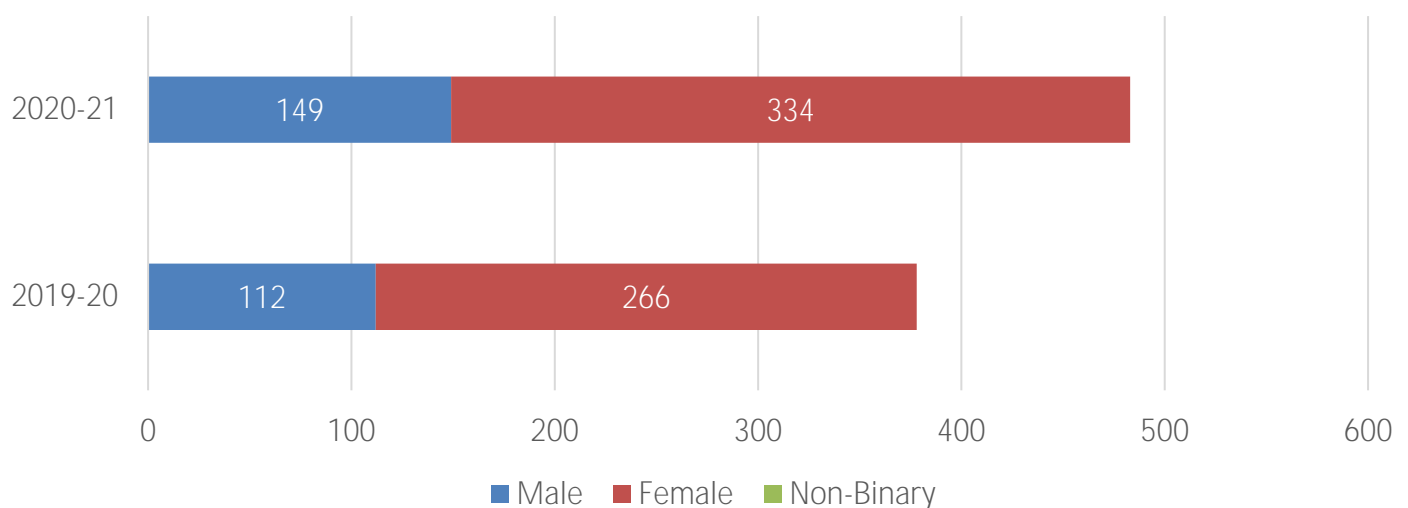
Figure 7. Number of Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Western Region (2016-2021)



The gender make-up of the NYSSB class of 2020-21 from the Western region changed only slightly from the prior year:

- Seal earners who identify as male represented almost 30% of all NYSSB earners from the region in 2019-20 and rose to 31% in 2020-21, a gain of 1%.
- Seal earners who identify as female represented 70% of all NYSSB earners from the region in 2019-20 and fell to 69% in 2020-21, a loss of 1%.
- 2020-21 was the first year that students pursuing the NYSSB were able to identify as non-binary. None of the NYSSB earners from the Western region identified in this way in 2020-21.

Figure 8. Number of Students Awarded the NYSSB in the Western Region by Gender (2020-2021)



When disaggregated by race and ethnicity, the data on Seal earners

There are four student sub-groups which are eligible to pursue the NYSSB:

- Current English Language Learners (ELLs) - students who, by birth or ancestry, speak or understand a language other than English and who score below the designated level on the NYS English language proficiency assessment. Current ELLs generally earn the NYSSB in their home language and English.
- Ever ELLs - students who were once ELLs, but who have demonstrated the NYS designated level of proficiency necessary to exit ELL status. Ever ELLs generally earn the NYSSB in their home language and English, although some may take a course of study in another language in which to pursue the NYSSB.
- Never ELLs whose home language is English - students who have never been identified as ELLs and whose home language is English. This sub-group of Never ELLs generally earns the NYSSB in English and a world language that they study through the Checkpoint C level.
- Never ELLs whose home language is other than English - students who have never been identified as ELLs and whose home language is other than English. This sub-group of Never ELLs generally earns the NYSSB in English and their home language, but may also do so in a language that they study in school.

Table 1. Number of Students Who Earned the NYSSB in the Western Region by ELL Status (2016-2021)

	ELLs	Ever ELLs	Never ELLs (Home Language = English)	Never ELLs (Home Language = Other Than English)*
2015-16	0	0	0	n/a
2016-17	1	10	59	n/a
2017-18				

Students from the Western region earned the NYSSB in Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, Dari, English, French, German, Hausa, Kinyamulenge, Kinyarwanda, Korean, Latin, Lingala, Mandarin, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tamil, Tuscarora, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Figure 12 shows the world languages other than English

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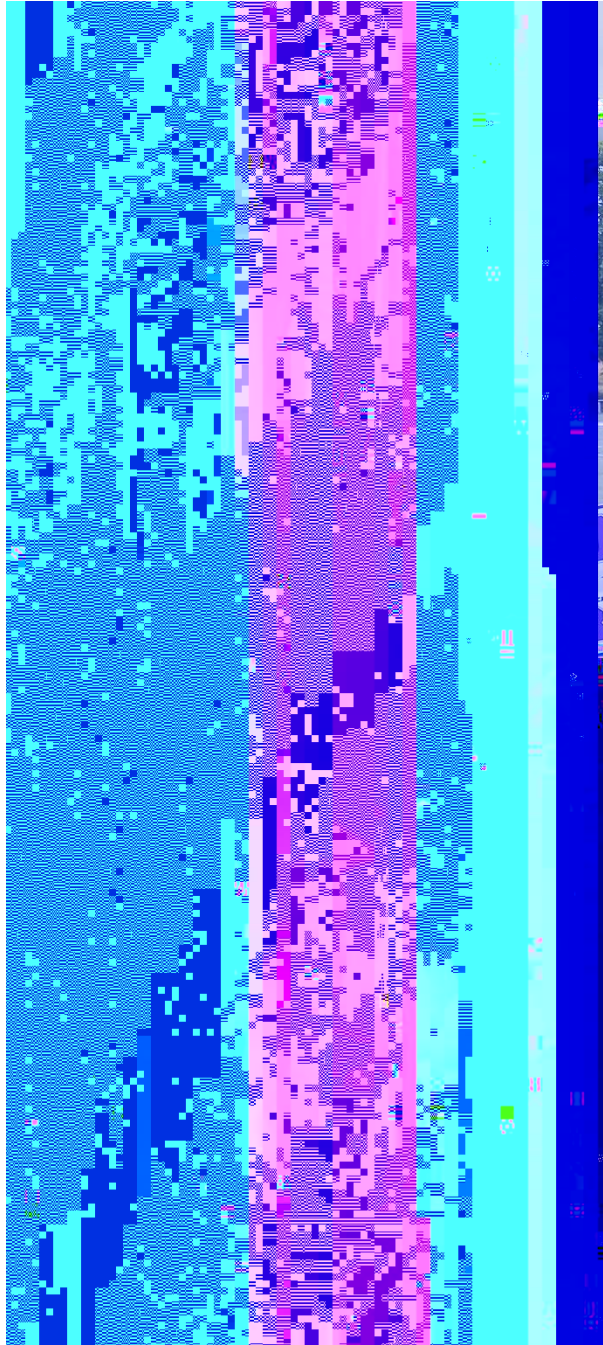
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*2021 NYSSB graduate from Riverside Academy
(Photo courtesy of Buffalo PS)*