Education Survey Reveals 2,312 ESL Students in Hawaii Public Schools

The public schools of Hawaii have about 2,312 non-native speakers of English enrolled, according to figures found in a Survey of Non-English Speaking Students Attending the Public Schools in Hawaii, Research Report No. 58, published May 23, 1968, by the Office of Research, Department of Education.

This number was obtained in a a survey which received responses from 190 out of 208 schools included

in the initial survey.

This number, which represents 1.4 per cent of the total public school enrollment, was obtained from the responses of the 190 schools that completed the survey questionaire. This count breaks down into the following groups: Samoan 611, Japanese 416, Philippines 337, Ilocano 335, Cantonese 142, Tagalog 121, Chinese (Dialect not determined) 90, Korean 40, Spanish 39, Visayan 37, Mandarin 34, German 21, So. Pacific 20, French 14, Chamorro 10, Tongan 9, other 36. These students are found in grades K-12 with a slightly heavier concentration in the lower grades.

With 158,418 students classified as native-speakers of English enrolled in all public schools in the state, perhaps it isn't too surprising to find that of the teachers surveyed, none had a teaching certificate in

TESL and only two had master's degrees in TESL. Very few had had TESL practice teaching experience. Many had attended workshops and institutes in TESL.

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