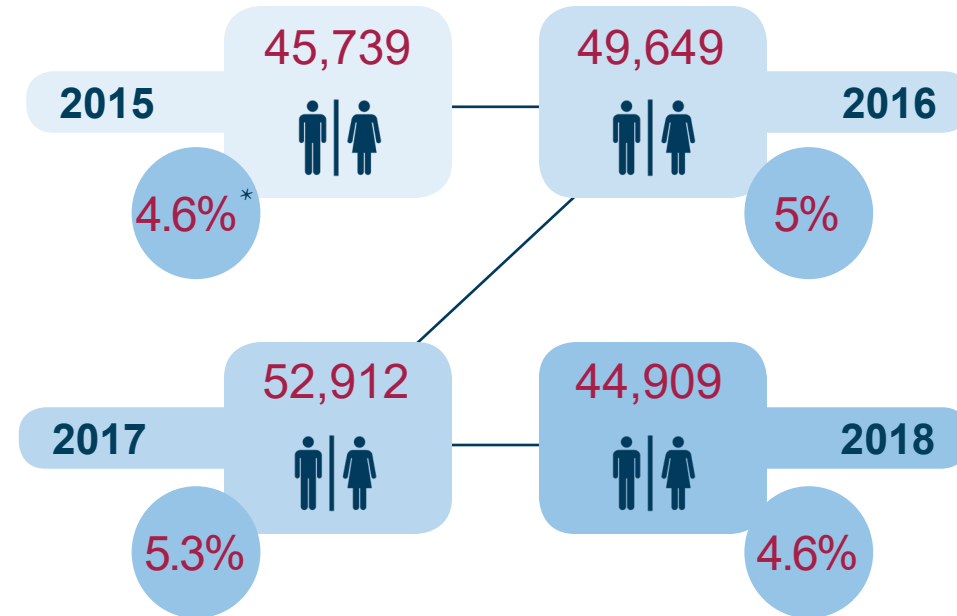


# Tennessee Trends

This publication is the **first installment** in an ongoing series highlighting education trends in Tennessee. Other installments in the series will address teacher salaries, the high school graduation rate, and other important trends. For more details about the Tennessee Trends series or to request additional information, visit the OREA website at [www.comptroller.tn.gov/OREA/](http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/OREA/).

- ★ An English Learner student is one “whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual the ability to meet the challenging state academic standards, the ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English, or the opportunity to participate fully in society.”
- ★ Most of the state’s ELL students attend schools in urban areas, particularly Nashville and Memphis, but nearly all Tennessee school districts have some ELL student enrollment.
- ★ Tennessee students speak about 140 different languages. ELL students may have had age-appropriate, formal education in their first language or may have experienced interrupted or even no formal school experience.

## English Language Learners 2015 to 2018



\* Percentages refer to the entire student population in Tennessee. All numbers include students in PreK-12.