

# AVID EXCEL<sup>®</sup>: INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AT A GLANCE

## Accelerating Success for Long-Term English Learners

*RMC Research Corporation. (2026). Study of the Implementation and Impact of AVID Excel.*

### What AVID Excel Is

AVID Excel is a middle school program specifically designed to accelerate the language acquisition, literacy development, and college and career readiness of long-term English learners (ELs). Unlike generic EL support, Excel provides a structured, research-based approach that addresses the unique needs of students who have been in U.S. schools for multiple years but have not yet achieved English proficiency.

### Who It Serves

- Long-term English learners in middle school
- Students needing targeted academic language development
- Schools seeking a research-validated EL intervention, not generic support

### What the Independent Research Shows

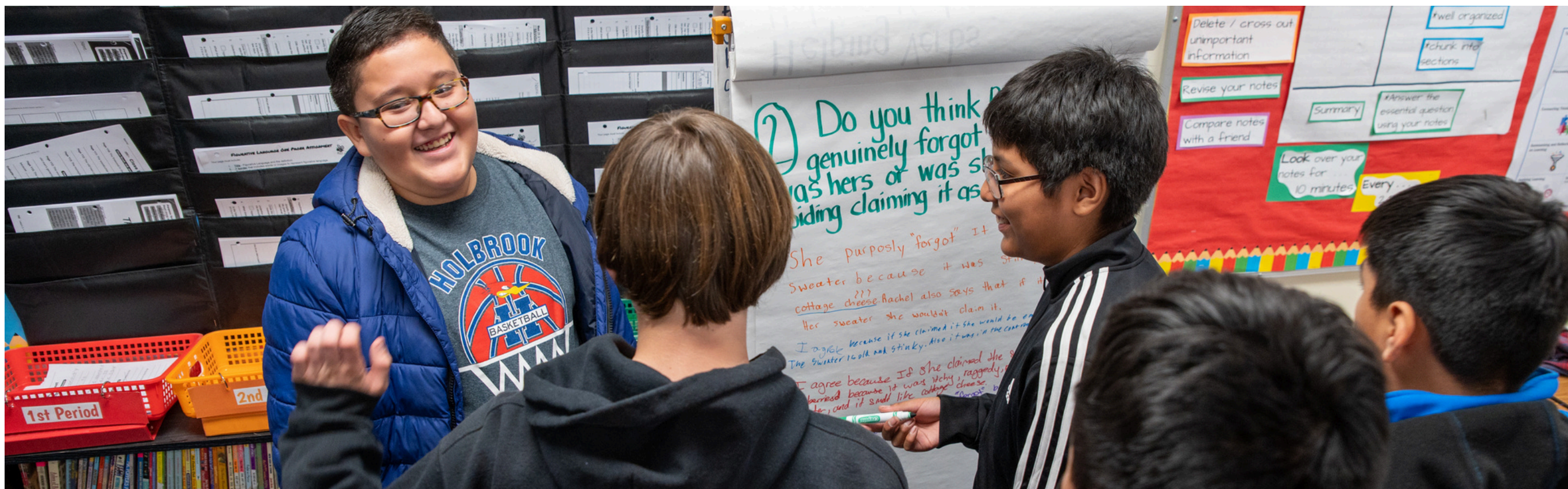
Conducted by [RMC Research Corporation](#), this multiyear, quasi-experimental study examined outcomes for over 2,100 AVID Excel students across 58 schools in six states, with data from the 2021–22 to 2024–25 school years.

### Key Student Outcomes

1. Accelerated English proficiency:
  - Grade 8 proficiency scores higher (0.10 standard deviations) than peers
2. Faster reclassification:
  - Nearly twice as likely to reclassify in grade 9 (22% vs. 13%)
3. Clear pathway to rigor:
  - 44% of AVID Excel students enrolled in the AVID Elective in grade 9 (vs. 31% of non-participants), increasing access to college-preparatory coursework

### Grade 9 AVID Excel Students Were Nearly Twice as Likely to Reclassify

(22% vs. 13%,  $p < 0.05$ )



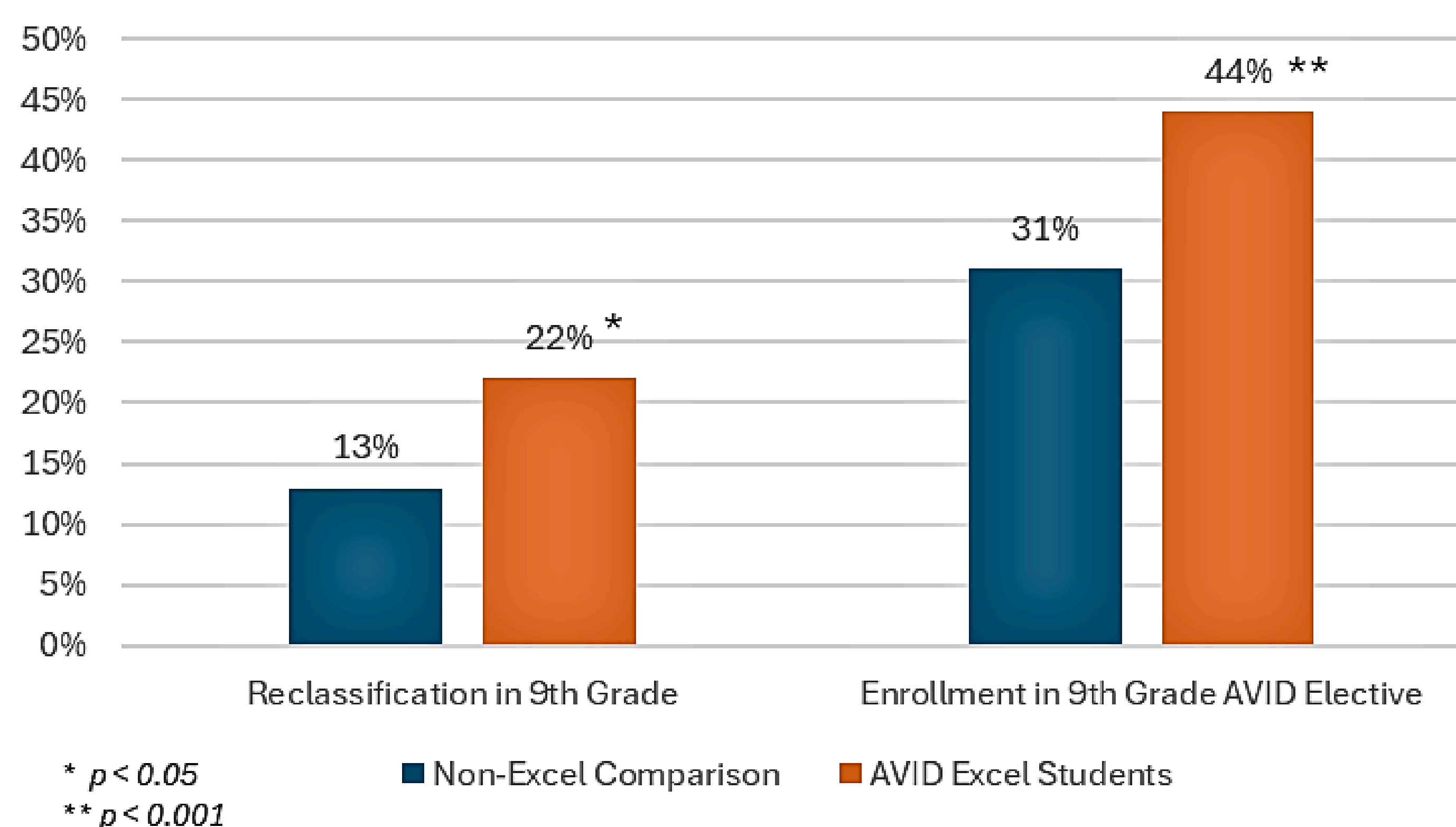
### Impact on Educators and Schools

- **80%+ of AVID-trained educators** reported increased capacity to:
  - Accelerate English language acquisition.
  - Engage and motivate multilingual learners.
  - Prepare students for high school, college, and career.
- **94% of educators** reported that AVID Excel fostered a strong sense of community among EL students.
- Strategies transferred beyond the AVID Excel classroom, benefiting all multilingual learners schoolwide.

### Implementation That Matters

- Two years of participation (grades 7–8) produced the strongest outcomes.
- Schools with weekly scholar groups saw the highest reclassification gains.
- Sustained high-quality implementation, while using the curriculum and with whole-school support, led to the best student outcomes.

AVID Excel Students were More Likely to be Reclassified and be Enrolled in the 9th Grade AVID Elective Course



### Why It Matters

Long-term English learners are one of the most underserved student populations. This independent research confirms that **AVID Excel delivers measurable, meaningful results**, helping students gain English proficiency faster, access rigorous coursework, and build the foundation for long-term academic success when implemented with sustained high quality over time.

### Instructional Design

- Built on AVID's WICOR<sup>®</sup> (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) strategies
- Six instructional strands: Reading • Writing • Oral Language • Academic Vocabulary • Study Skills • Self-Determination and Leadership

*"By the midway through the year, kids were dying to be the one that would stand and deliver. Here are kids that don't really like to speak, but you have created a safe environment and given them opportunities to practice with a partner before they share out loud. People are encouraging. No one is making fun. Now they can't wait to share, and I can't get them to stop talking."*  
– AVID Excel Teacher

### For More Information

This independent evaluation was conducted by [RMC Research Corporation](#) in partnership with AVID Center. The research team included:

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