

Fox Valley Newcomer Project: Newcomer Survey 2026 - Basic Needs

The term "basic needs" can be both all encompassing, and very specific. Given the many ways to define it, we don't ask newcomer respondents to describe their needs in this category at large.

However, we did ask Newcomers about their access to food, childcare, technology, internet access, and emergency services. We asked organizations that provide basic needs supplies and services about the programs and services they offer that support newcomers.

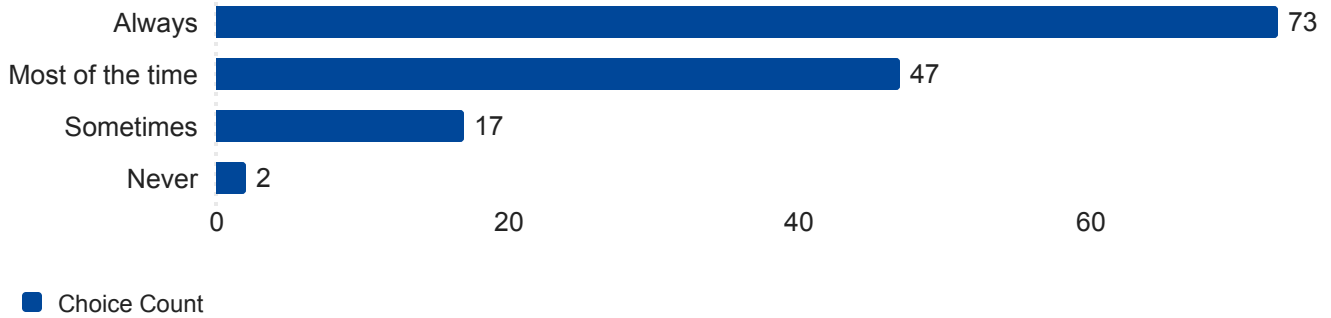
In 2026, a total of 116 Newcomers and 51 organizations across the Fox Valley of Wisconsin responded to the survey.

Organizations who offer Basic Needs services or programs and participated in the survey.

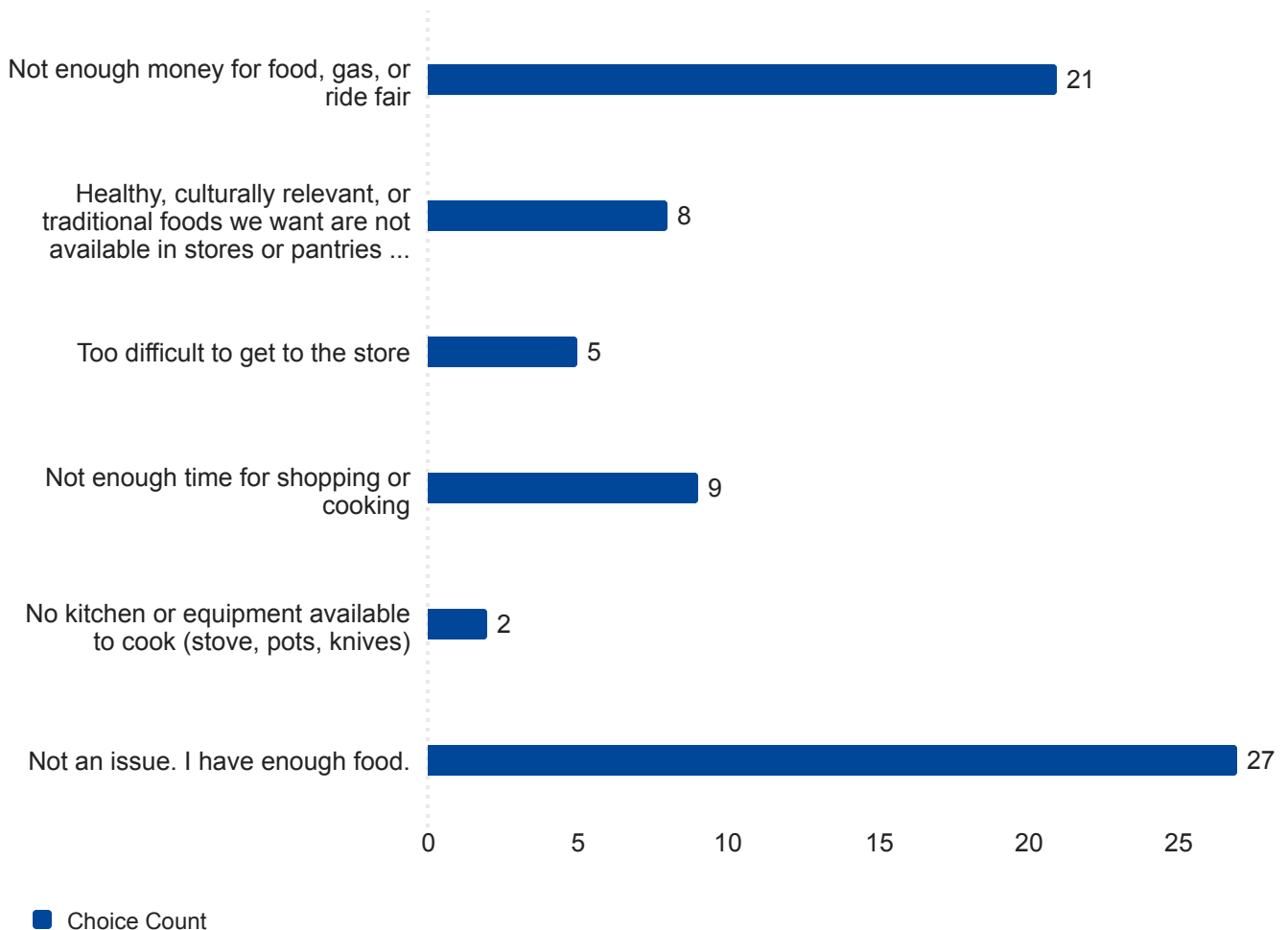
Aliance Chruch
 Apostolic Truth Church
 Appleton Area School District
 Baha'i Faith Appleton
 Bethel Lutheran Church
 Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley
 Casa Esther
 City of Appleton Health Department
 Community Initiatives of Wisconsin
 Double Portion Soup Kitchen and Pantry
 Forward Service Corporation
 Fox Valley Church, Kimberly, WI
 Fox Valley Literacy
 Harbor House Domestic & Sexual Violence Programs
 Hope & Help Together
 Multicultural Coalition, Inc.
 Oshkosh Kids Foundation
 Samaritan
 St Mary Catholic Schools
 ThedaCare
 VPI, Inc.

Food Security

How often Newcomer respondents have enough food to eat



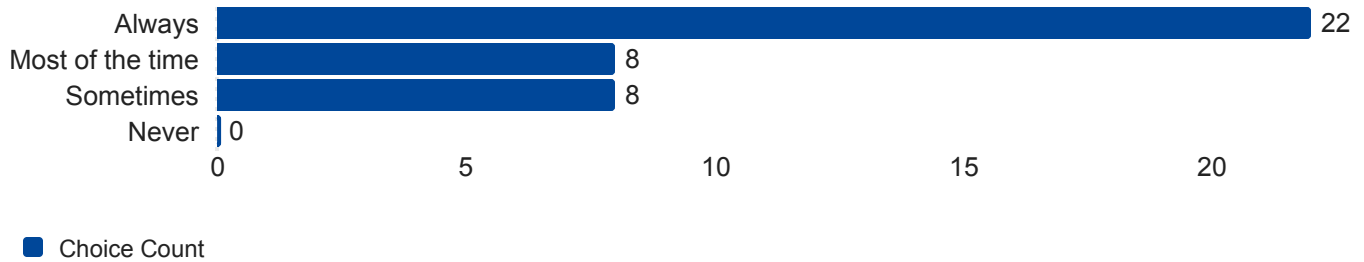
Reasons there is not enough food to eat



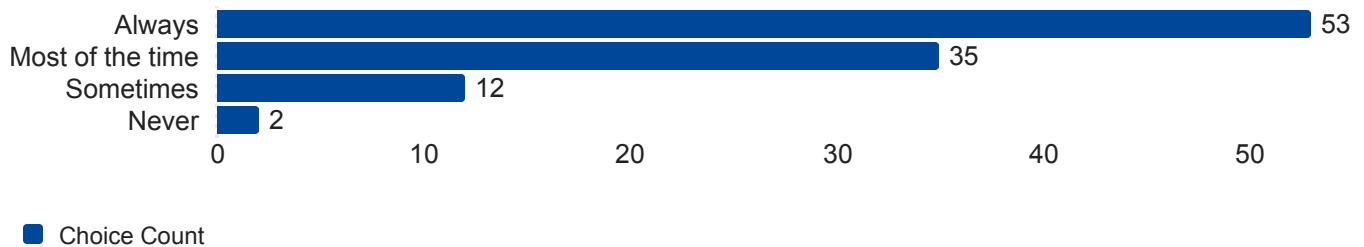
Food Security by length of time

The following charts show food security for Newcomers, broken down by how long they have lived in the Fox Valley and the United States. This kind of "length of time" data can help us see if there are any differences in how stable food access is for Newcomers the longer they live in the area.

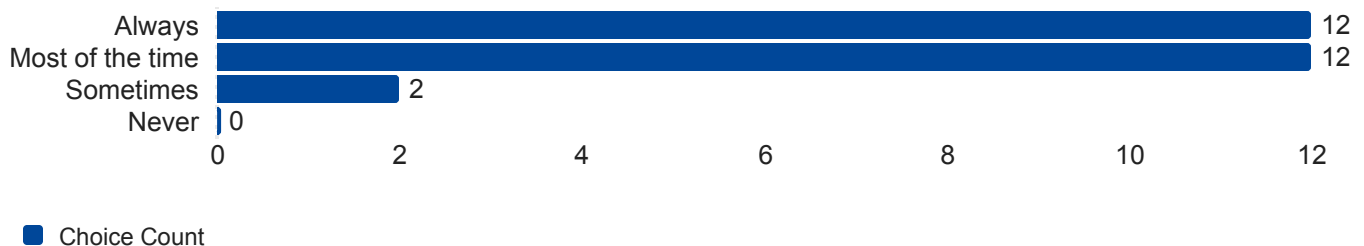
How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers within 1 year of arrival



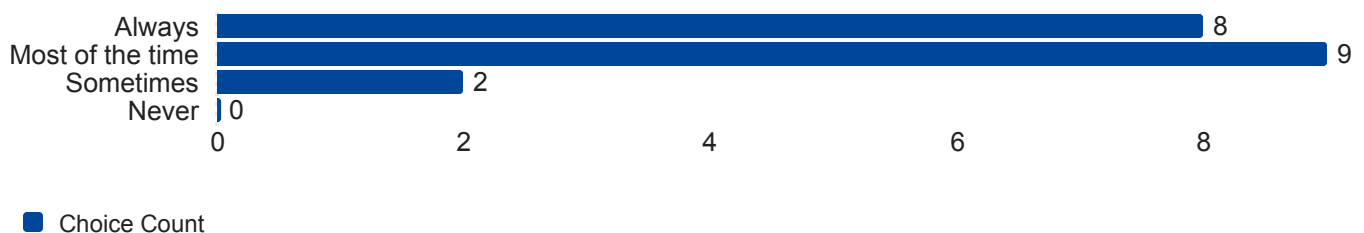
How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers 1-5 years after arrival



How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers 6-10 years after arrival



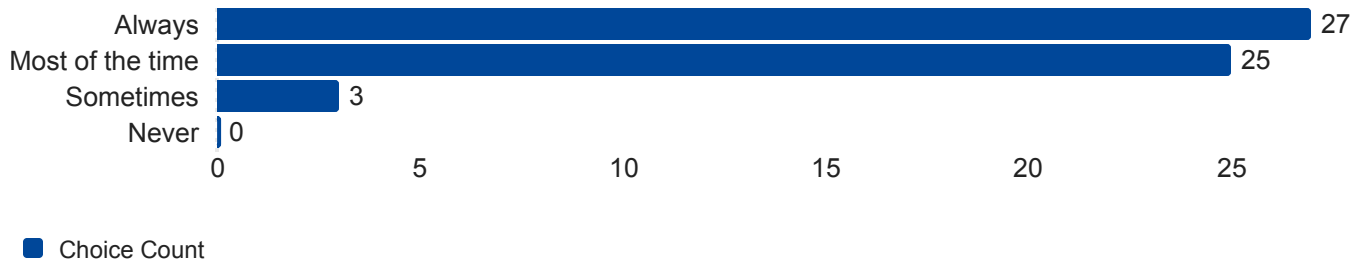
How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers more than 10 years after arrival



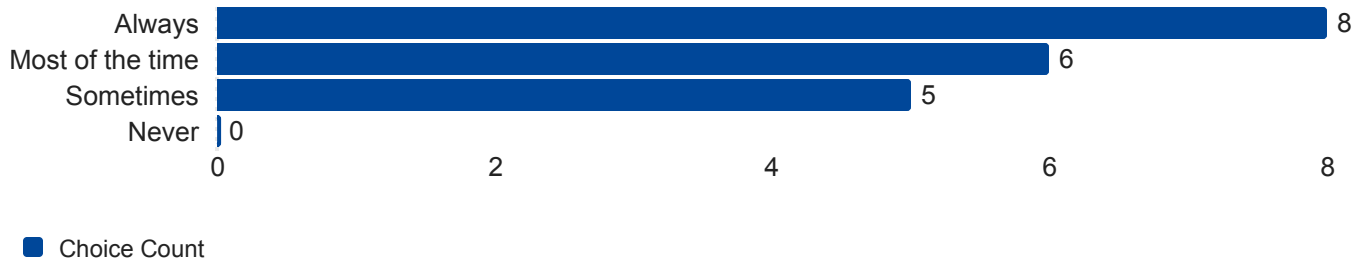
Food Security by primary language

The following charts show food security for respondents whose primary languages other than English are Spanish (45 respondents), Swahili (25 respondents), and Kinyarwanda (19 respondents). Primary language indication does not infer that language users share the same cultural norms, histories, or socio economic status. Primary language may provide an indicator as to if any services or programs are more accessible to users of that language.

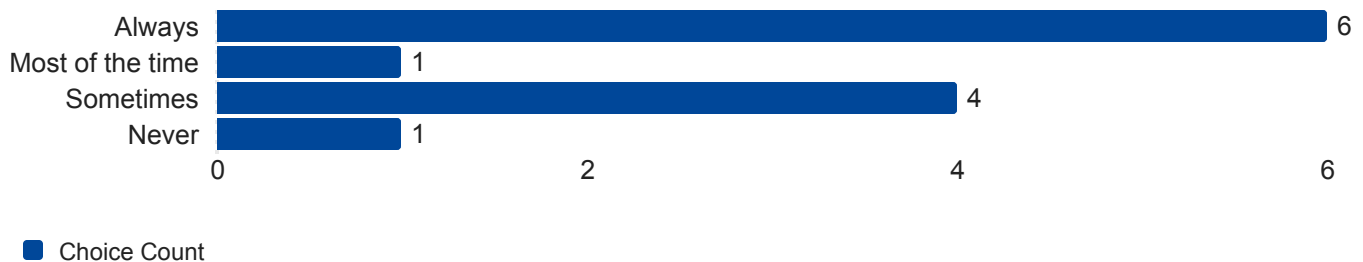
How often there is enough food to eat for Spanish speaking Newcomers



How often there is enough food to eat for Swahili speaking Newcomers



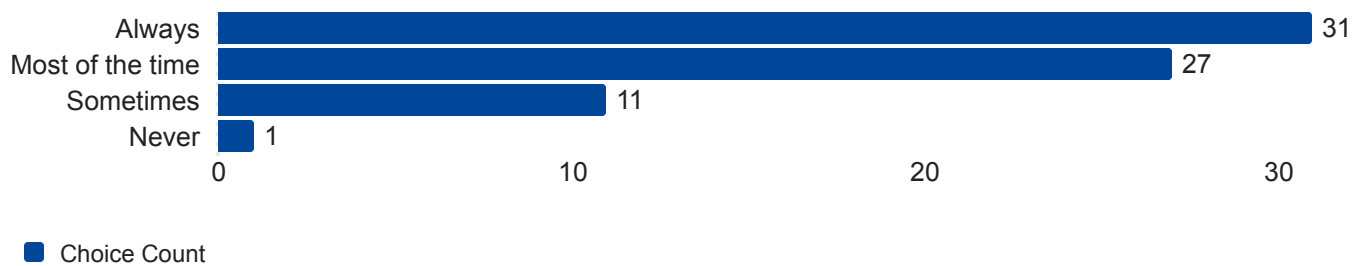
How often there is enough food to eat for Kinyarwanda speaking Newcomers



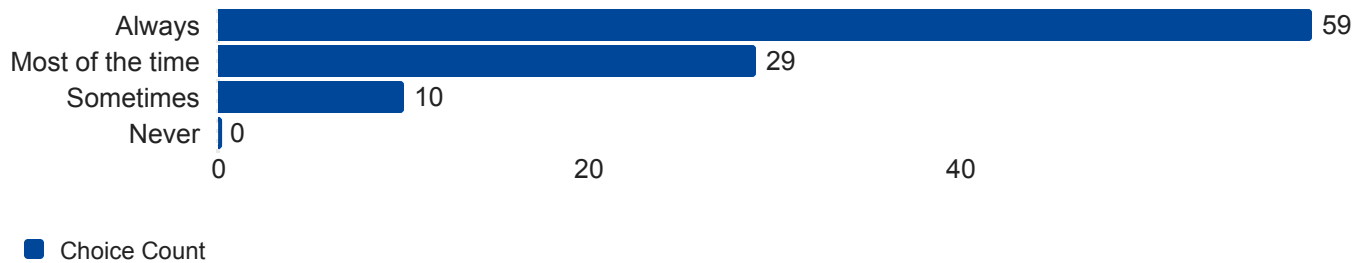
Food Security for Newcomers with different levels of comfort with English

Newcomers who responded were asked about the type of healthcare services they rely on most often. The following chart shows the services most frequently used by respondents who reported a low level of comfort with reading, writing, speaking, and listening in English. This kind of data can indicate how much English is a barrier for different types of care.

How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers who reported a low level of comfort with English



How often there is enough food to eat for Newcomers who reported a high level of comfort with English



Childcare

74% of Newcomer respondents identified as not having childcare. Newcomer respondents were asked a few questions related to childcare. The following charts show responses to the question "Do you have childcare" from newcomers with children from ages 0-5, broken down by how long they have lived in the Fox Valley and the United States. This kind of "length of time" data can help us see if there are any differences in how stable food access is for Newcomers the longer they live in the area.

Childcare for Newcomers within 1 year of arrival



Childcare for Newcomers 1-5 years after arrival



Childcare for Newcomers 6-10 years after arrival



Childcare for Newcomers more than 10 years after arrival



Childcare by primary language

74% of Newcomer respondents identified as not having childcare. The following charts show responses to the question "Do you have childcare" from respondents whose primary languages other than English are Spanish (45 respondents), Swahili (25 respondents), and Kinyarwanda (19 respondents). Primary language indication does not infer that language users share the same cultural norms, histories, or socio economic status. Primary language may provide an indicator as to if any services or programs are more accessible to users of that language.

Childcare for Spanish speaking Newcomers



Childcare for Swahili speaking Newcomers



Childcare for Kinyarwanda speaking Newcomers



Childcare for Newcomers with different levels of comfort with English

74% of Newcomer respondents identified as not having childcare. The following charts show responses to the question "Do you have childcare" from respondents who reported a low or high level of comfort with reading, writing, speaking, and listening in English. This kind of data can indicate how much English is a barrier for using different types of health insurance.

Childcare for Newcomers who reported a low level of comfort with English



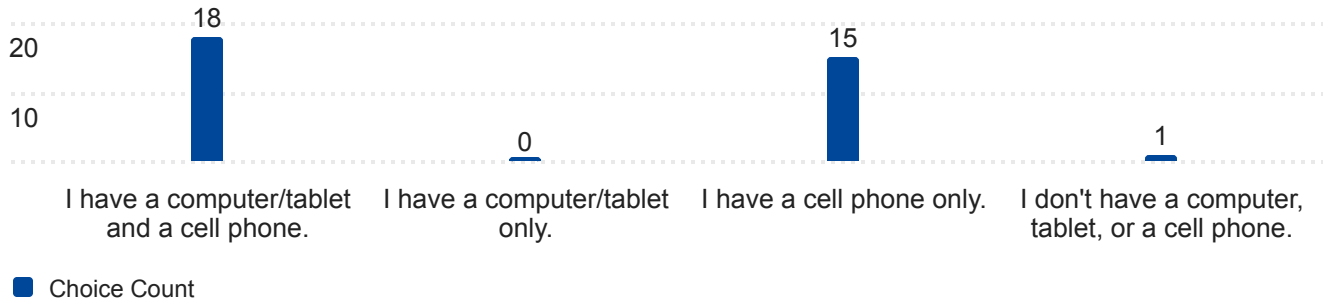
Childcare for Newcomers who reported a high level of comfort with English



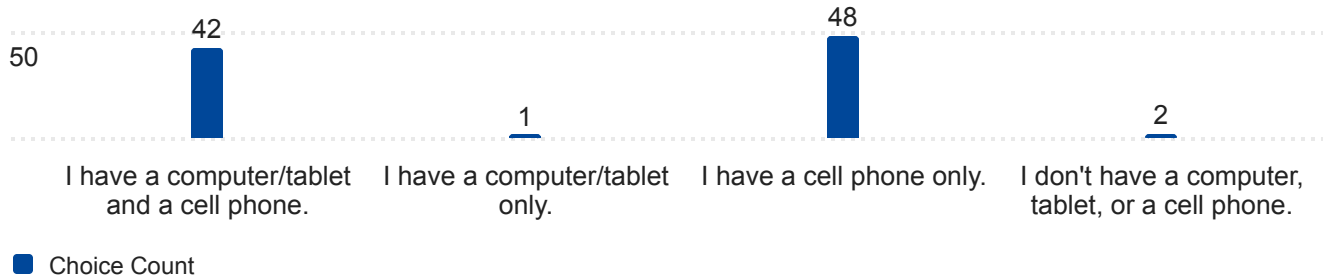
Technology Use

The following charts show responses to the question "Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone," broken down by how long they have lived in the Fox Valley and the United States. This kind of "length of time" data can help us see if there are any differences in how stable food access is for Newcomers the longer they live in the area.

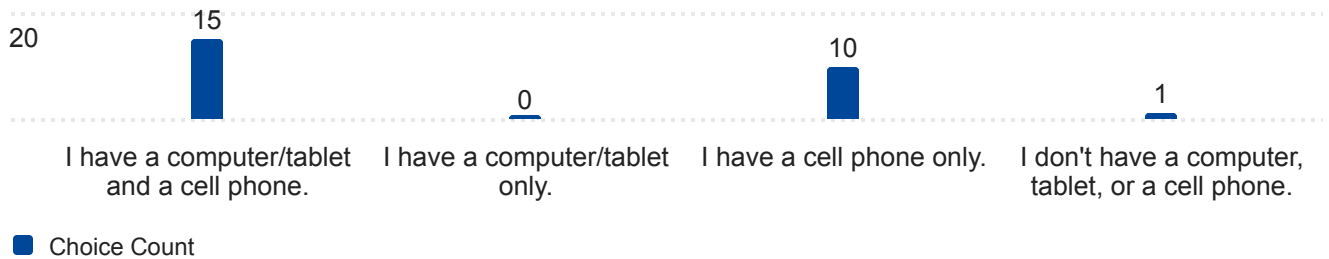
Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (within 1 year of arrival)



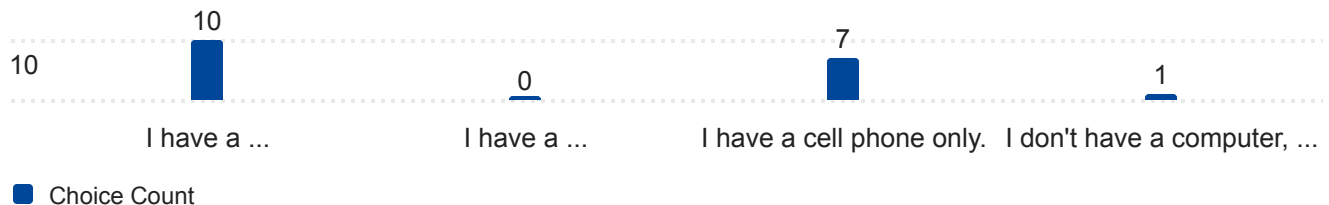
Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (1-5 years since arrival)



Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (5-10 years since arrival)



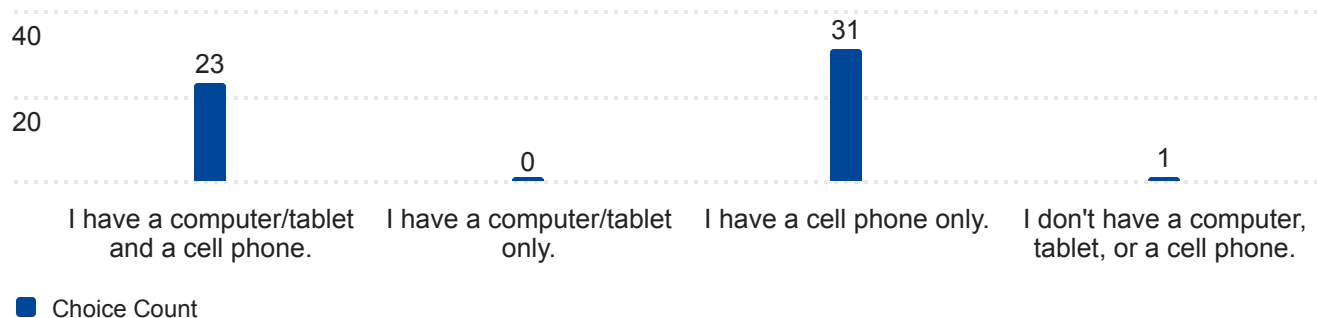
Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (more than 10 years since arrival)



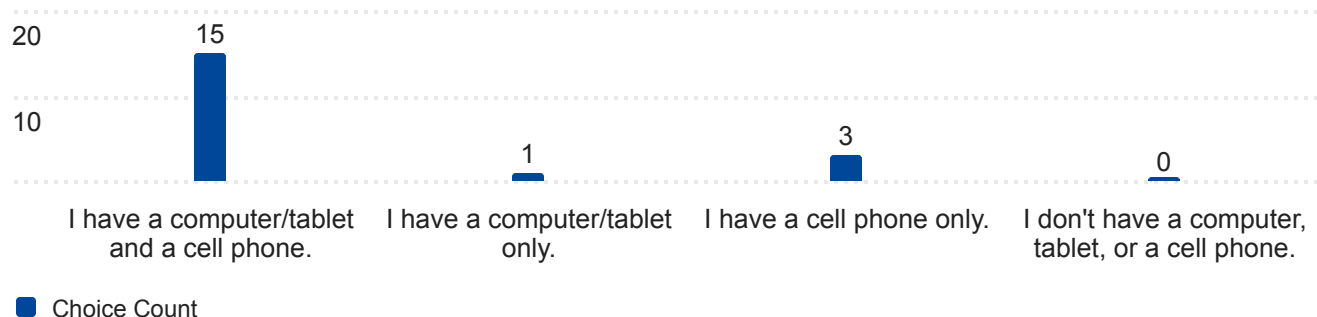
Technology Use by language

The following charts show responses to the question "Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone?" from respondents whose primary languages other than English are Spanish (45 respondents), Swahili (25 respondents), and Kinyarwanda (19 respondents). Primary language indication does not infer that language users share the same cultural norms, histories, or socio economic status. Primary language may provide an indicator as to if any services or programs are more accessible to users of that language.

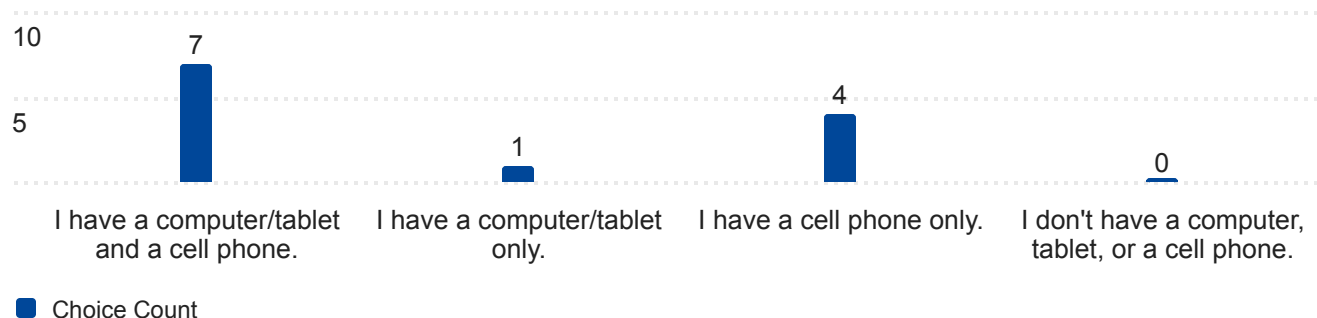
Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (Spanish speakers)



Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (Swahili speakers)



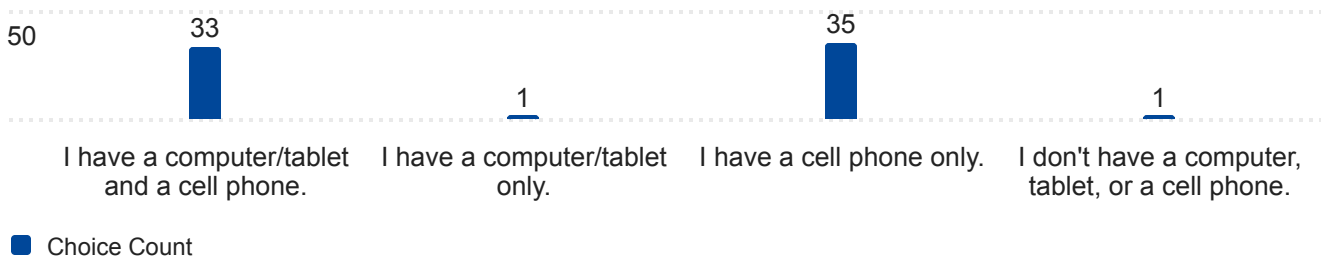
Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (Kinyarwanda speakers)



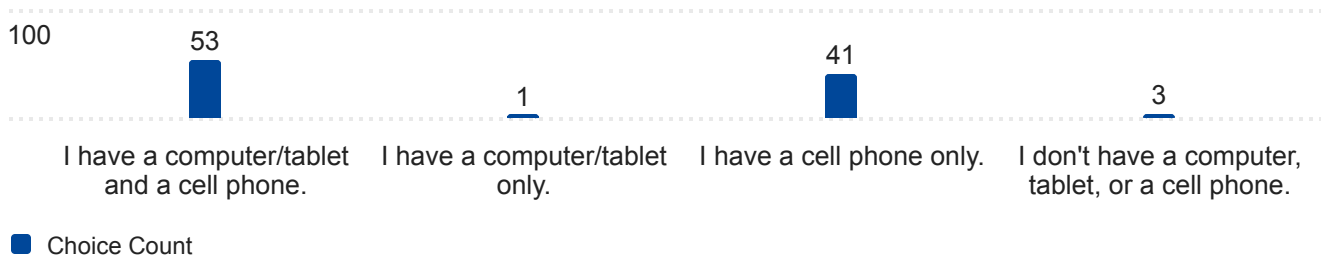
Technology Use based on comfort with English

Newcomers who responded were asked about the kinds of technology they have. The following chart shows the responses about computers and cell phones by respondents who reported either low or high levels of comfort with reading, writing, speaking, and listening in English. This kind of data can indicate how much English is a barrier for acquiring and using these technologies.

Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (low level of comfort with English)



Do you have a computer and/or a cell phone? (high level of comfort with English)



Internet Access

Newcomer respondents indicated that the majority have internet access at home. Disaggregating this data based on time since arrival, languages other than English, or comfort with English did not provide further clarity around accessibility.

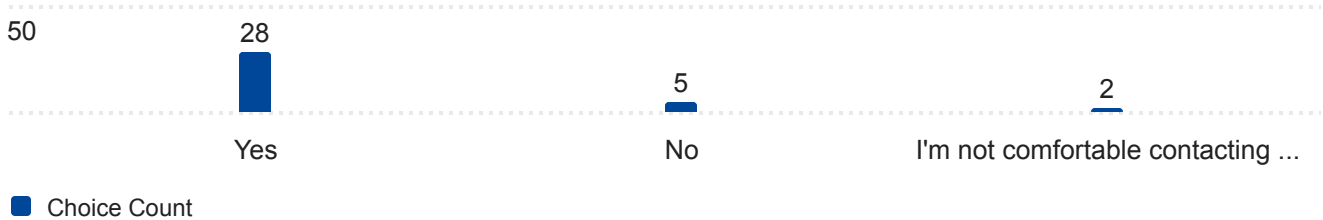
Do you have access the internet at home?



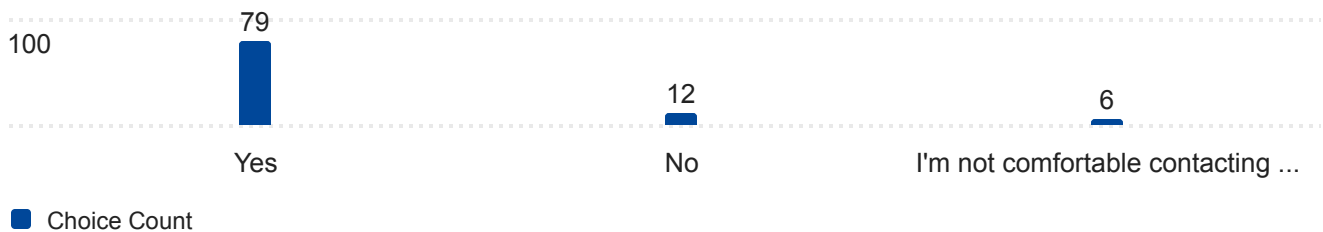
Emergency Response

The following charts show responses to the question "Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation," broken down by how long they have lived in the Fox Valley and the United States. This kind of "length of time" data can help us see if there is a communication gap about emergency services depending on how long an individual our family has lived here.

Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (within 1 year)



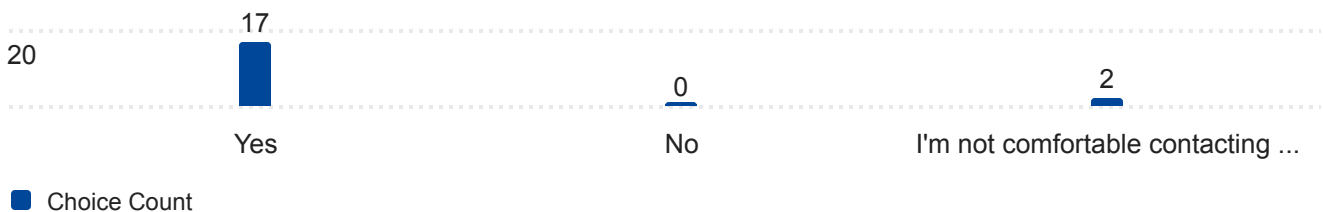
Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (1-5 years)



Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (6-10 years)



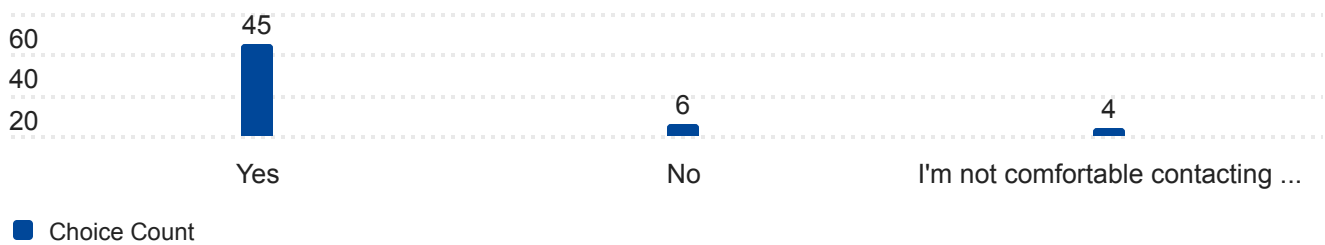
Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (more than 10 years)



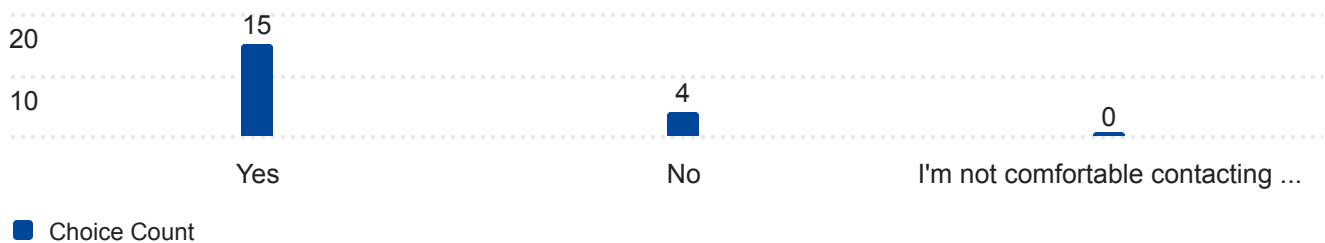
Emergency Response based on language

The following charts show responses to the question "Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation," from respondents whose primary languages other than English are Spanish (45 respondents), Swahili (25 respondents), and Kinyarwanda (19 respondents). Primary language indication does not infer that language users share the same cultural norms, histories, or socio economic status. Primary language may provide an indicator as to if any services or programs are more accessible to users of that language.

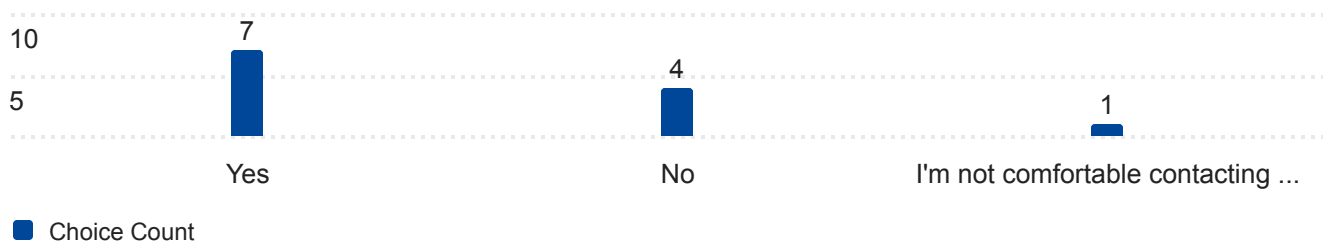
Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (Spanish)



Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (Swahili)



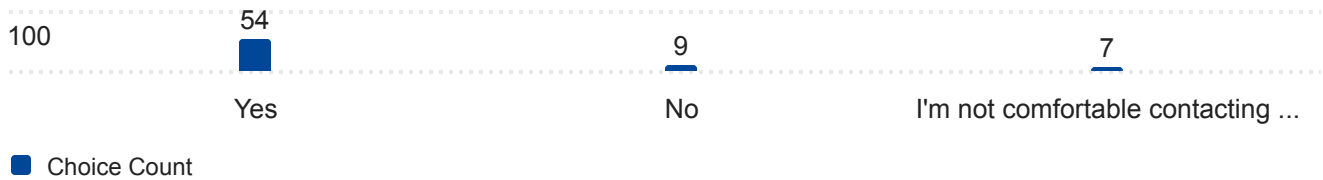
Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (Kinyarwanda)



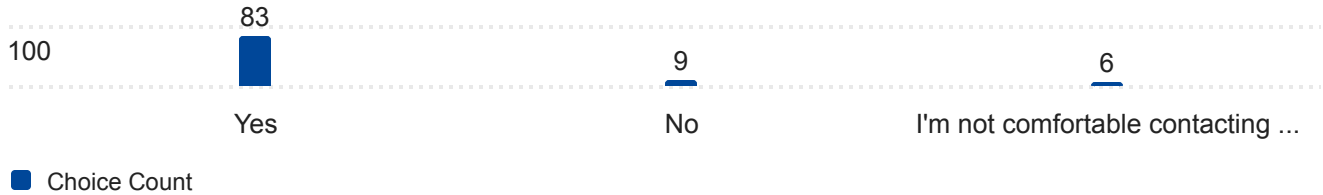
Emergency Response based on comfort with English

The following charts show responses to the question "Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation," from respondents who reported either low or high levels of comfort with reading, writing, speaking, and listening in English. This kind of data can indicate how much English is a barrier for acquiring and using these technologies.

Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (low comfort with English)

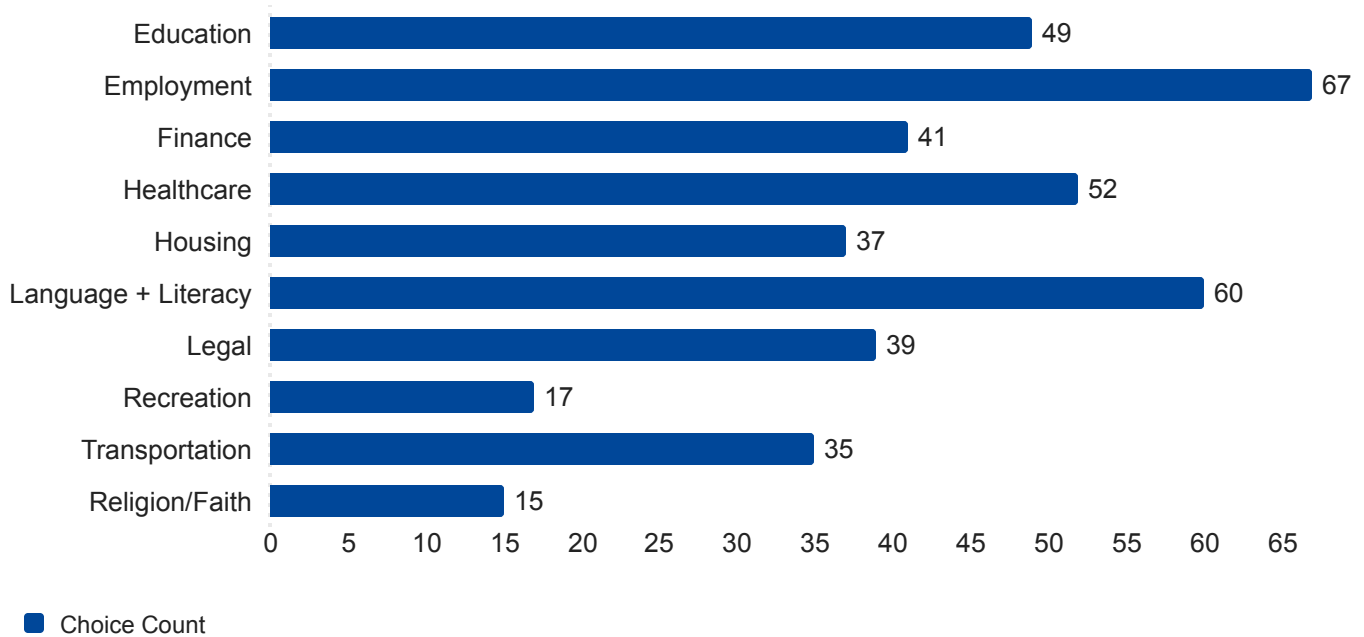


Do you know who to contact in an emergency situation? (high comfort with English)



Basic Needs as an indicator of a thriving life:

In the Fox Cities, we want all families to have good lives. Which of these areas of life have been challenging for you or your family to support you in living well?



Supports Request - Basic Needs

Newcomers selected a variety of supports they would like easier access to across all sectors. Below are the services connected to basic needs.

