

Fox Valley Newcomer Project: Newcomer Survey 2026 - Education

Newcomer respondent summary perspective of education around the Fox Valley:

"We have a strong desire for greater access to flexible and continued educational opportunities."

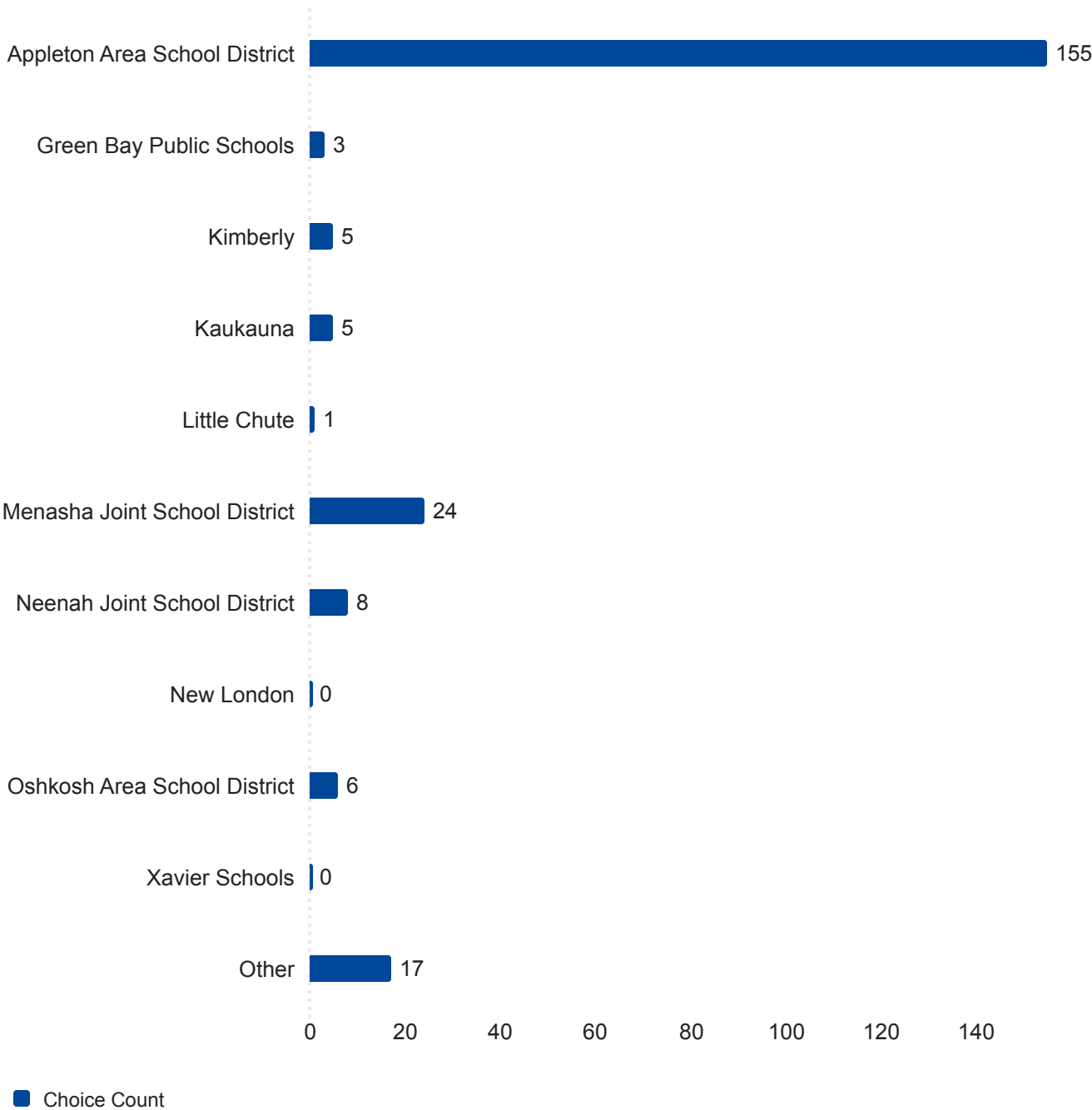
In regards to Education, we asked Newcomers about the levels of education people in their families had achieved both outside and inside of the US, whether or not their training and job preparation currently matches their career, what school districts their children attend, and what, if anything could be changed about the way they interact with education in the valley. We asked school districts, universities, and other organizations that provide education services about the programs and services they offer that support newcomers.

In 2026, a total of 161 Newcomers and 51 organizations across the Fox Valley of Wisconsin responded to the survey.

Education Organizations who participated in the survey and their reported programs

Alliance Church	Driver's Education (knowledge) (driving practice)
Appleton Area School District	Driver's Education (knowledge), Food & Nutrition Education, Weather Education
Appleton Public Library	Driver's Education (knowledge), Food & Nutrition Education, Civic Engagement, Technology Training
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley	Food & Nutrition Education
City of Appleton Health Department	Food & Nutrition Education
Community Initiatives of Wisconsin	Food & Nutrition Education, Technology Training
ESTHER	Civic Engagement
Forward Service Corporation	Driver's Education (knowledge) (driving practice), Technology Training
Fox Valley Literacy	Driver's Education (knowledge), Citizenship Classes, Home Equity and Credit Education, Technology Training
Hope & Help Together	Driver's Education (knowledge) (driving practice), Home Equity and Credit Education
Menasha Joint School District	
Multicultural Coalition, Inc.	Civic Engagement, Food & Nutrition Education, Weather Education
St Mary Catholic Schools	Technology Training

Newcomer Respondent School District Enrollment

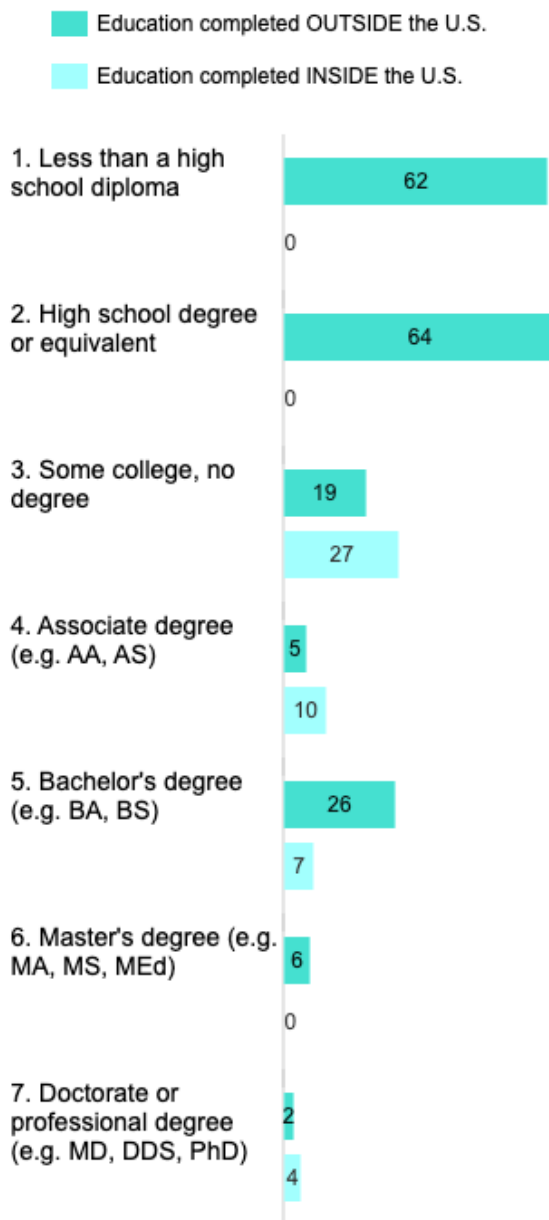


Levels of Education completed by newcomer respondents inside and outside of the U.S.

Newcomers who responded were asked about the levels of education themselves and members of their family attained both outside and inside of the United States. Newcomers arrive with a wide range of educational degrees, 32% reported completing one or more kinds of post secondary education prior to arriving.

It isn't possible to split this data into sub groups by language, time since arrival, or levels of comfort with English.

How many people who live with you (including you) have completed each amount of school INSIDE vs OUTSIDE of the U.S.?



Job Training and Career Matching

Newcomers who said they or a family member attended some college or a higher level of education were also asked whether or not their family member or themselves were currently working in a career or field that matched their field of education and training. More often than not, our Newcomer professionals are not working in their area of expertise. There are individuals with advanced degrees and certifications in areas of work like healthcare and legal work who have not been able to find employment in their areas of expertise.

62% of Newcomer respondents indicated that they are not working in a job that matches their area of expertise.

It isn't possible to split this data into sub groups by language, time since arrival, or levels of comfort with English.

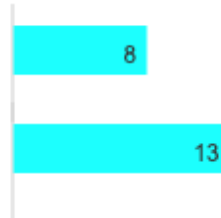
Are the people who live with you (including you) who attended some college programs currently working in your/their area of expertise?

Yes

8

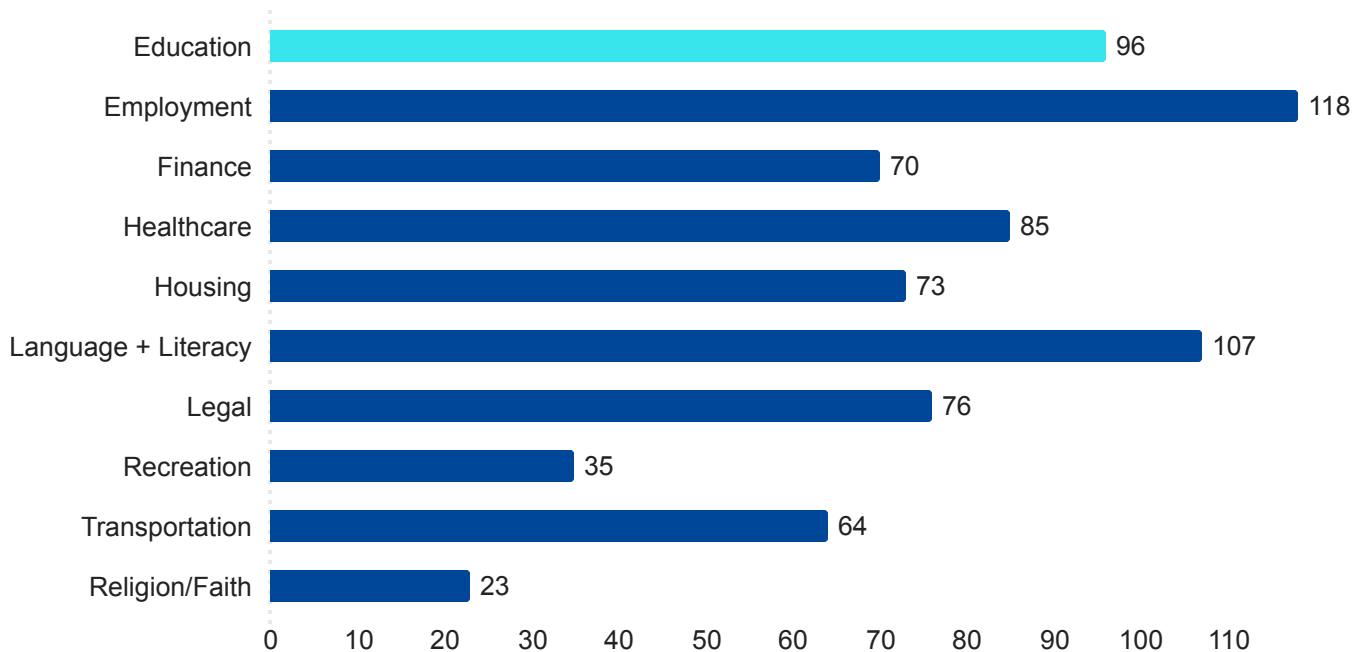
No

13



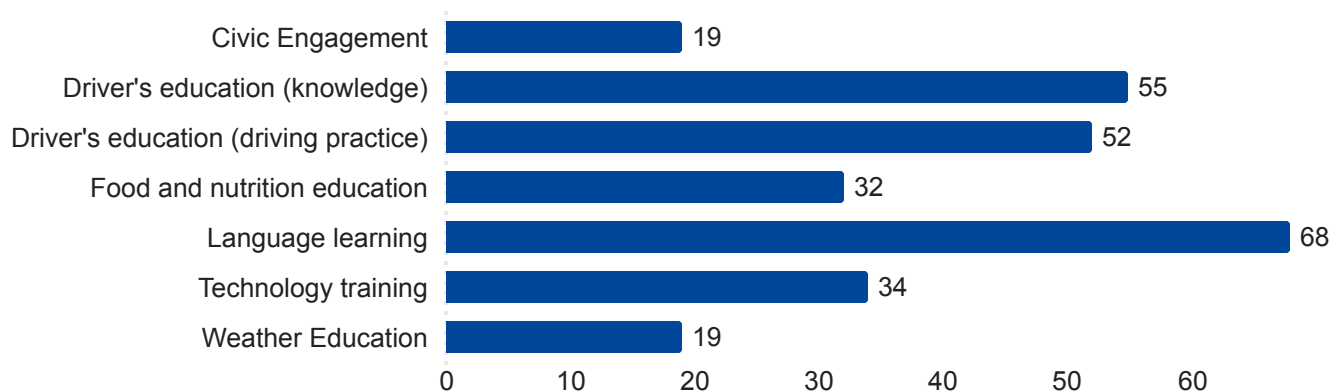
Education as an indicator of a thriving life:

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 - Community Education Services

Newcomers selected a variety of supports they would like easier access to across all sectors. The following table shows the number of newcomer respondents who identified a need for easier access to the supports listed.



■ Choice Count