“GLOBAL LEX”
Lexington Global Engagement Center

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US Census data shows only 3-4% immigrant population in KY
Lexington
FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FCPS ENGLISH LEARNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>#of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>4,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>4,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,234 = 244%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- In 2005 ELL’s spoke **27** languages
- In 2014 ELL’s speak **92** languages

**Top 10:**

1. Spanish
2. Arabic
3. Swahili
4. Chinese
5. Japanese
6. Nepali
7. French
8. Korean
9. Vietnamese
10. Ukrainian/Russian
11. Gujarati
12. Urdu
More languages.... 131!!

- Afrikaans, Albanian, Amharic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Bengali, Bhutanese, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cambodian (Khmer), Cangobal (Kango), Catalan, Cebuano, Croatian, Croko, Danish, Ewe, Fante, Farsi, Georgian, German, Gumez, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Kannada, Kikongo, Kimaasai, Kynyalenge, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Kiswahili, Kurdish, Lingala, Lugandan, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Turkish, Urdu, Uzbek ... Wolof, Yoruba
Break down of some languages
by Lynn Fors

- 38 African,
- 12 Middle Eastern,
- 22 European,
- 28 Asian, 5 from the Philippines,
- 4 from Mexico,
- 5 from Guatemala,
- 14 of the 23 official languages from India
Lexington’s International population

- 244% growth
- 19.4% of the total population
- 131 foreign languages
- Over 53,000 foreign born residents
Number of International Migrants Grows in the U.S. and Around the World

Number of people living in a country in which they were not born

Source: United Nations
PEW RESEARCH CENTER
CHALLENGES

• Lack of infrastructure
  – Trained interpreters!
  – KRM
  – Local population’s experience

• Gaps in Education
  • American laws & culture
  • Cross-cultural skills
    – Teachers, Staff, Business

• Multilingual Workforce & entrepreneurial support
CHALLENGES

- *Targeted English [ESL] classes
  - Literacy
  - University level
  - Job related
  - Driver’s education
- Outreach & integration
  - LFUCG: Public Safety
  - *Health industry
  - Business & Academia
OPPORTUNITIES

• Economic engine
  – Immigrants are nearly twice as likely as the native-born to start businesses
  – Medical, Research, Service, Restaurant industries

• International expertise

• Global artistic & cultural expression

*Kauffman Foundation’s Index of Entrepreneurial Activity
OPPORTUNITIES

• **KY global trade growth** [kyexports.org]
  - 25.9% export growth 2011-2013
  - US export growth 6.7%
  - N Carolina 8.5%, S Carolina 5.7%, Alabama 7.9%, Illinois 1.6%, Ohio 8.9%, Virginia - .8%

• **Job Creation:**
  - Foreign language speakers in Fayette County open international markets & overcome language barriers to effective trade
  - Internships & partnerships with existing businesses expand business ventures locally & abroad
Lexington’s response...

GLOBAL LEX
Lexington Global Engagement Center
MISSION

To support the city and its residents, individually and collectively, to thrive in today’s global environment through the deliberate encouragement of civic engagement, mutual understanding, and economic and artistic diversity.
Goals

- Internships
- Training students & staff
- Outreach to the local & international communities
- Continuous assessment & response to service needs
- Development of educational programs & workshops
- Repository of data & resources
- A networking hub
Academic Involvement at GLOBAL LEX

Universities & the Bluegrass Higher Education Consortium [research, internships, global & multicultural competence]

- University of KY
- KY State University
- Berea
- Georgetown College
- Transylvania University
- Transylvania University
- Midway College
- BCTC
Community Involvement at GLOBAL LEX

Committees of leaders & experts

- Civic Engagement
- Arts & Cultural Programming
- ESL/Literacy/Driver’s Ed & Citizenship
- Professional Development
Engagement with LEXARTS

Arts & Culture

- Children’s Art Therapist
- KY Refugee Ministries
- Maxwell Street Legal Clinic
- BCTC Professor, UK
- Chinese American Association
- Business owners
- Transylvania University

- Lexington Public Library
- Sister Cities
- KY Center for Restorative Justice
- Citizen/Advocate from Africa, a CASA volunteer
- Maxwell Street Legal Clinic
- FLACA President
Engagement

ESL/Literacy/Tutoring

– University of KY Professor of ESL
– Georgetown College Professor of ESL
– BCTC
– Transylvania University
– Midway College
– Lexington Public Library
– KY Refugee Ministries
– International Community members
– Maxwell Street Legal Clinic - AmeriCorps
OTHER LFUCG RESPONSES TO POPULATION GROWTH

LFUCG’s 911 & 311 telephone interpreters
Mayor’s International Affairs Advisory Commission
Questions, comments or recommendations?

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