



**Above and Beyond: Elevating Our Neighborhoods – October 1, 2022**

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Coordinator

Welcome Dayton

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President

Old North Dayton Neighborhood Association

- 1) What is Welcome Dayton?
- 2) Immigrant Landscape of Dayton
- 3) How to Connect with Your New American Neighbors



# What is Welcome Dayton?

In 2010, after concerns about housing discrimination against immigrants in Dayton, government, non-profit, and business sectors engaged in a series of extensive community conversations regarding immigration in the region. As a result of the conversations, the **Welcome Dayton Plan** was created. The Dayton City Commission adopted it in October 2011.



# What is Welcome Dayton?

The **Welcome Dayton Plan** was designed to act as a framework for action for not only the City of Dayton but for the entire community. It supports integration of immigrants into the Dayton community by encouraging business and economic development, providing access to education, government, health and social services, ensuring equity in the justice system, and promoting arts and culture.



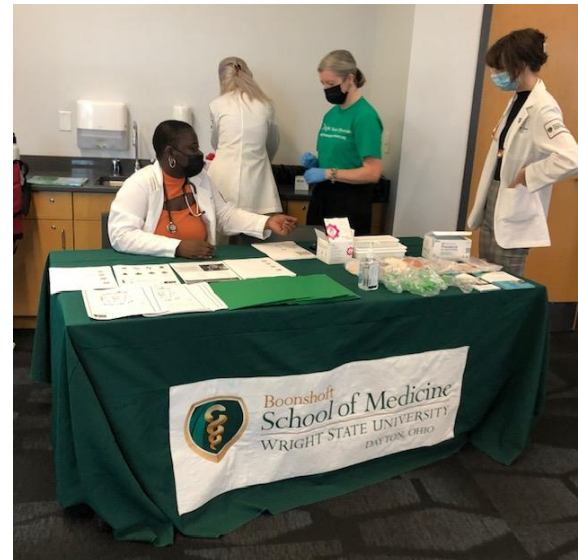
# Who is Welcome Dayton?

Welcome Dayton encourages commitments and engagement by the **broader community**, as opposed to being just another government-run program.



# Welcome Dayton Committee

Commission-appointed Welcome Dayton Committee with members from the community. At least 5 members must be foreign-born.



# Welcome Dayton Subcommittees

- Education
- Health and Human Services
- Local Government & Justice
- Business & Economic Development
- Community, Culture & Arts

Committee members serve on one committee.

+Members of the community. (=100)



# Out and About



Panel Presentation at University of Dayton  
EDT322/SOC310

WD Coordinator Jeannette Horwitz

City Commissioner Matt Joseph (WD Committee Chair)

WD Committee Member Mohammed Al-Hamdani



# Staff



Jeannette Horwitz  
Coordinator



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CE Specialist



Martha-Jeannette Rodriguez  
CE Specialist

Community Engagement Division  
Department of Planning, Neighborhoods and Development



# Welcome Dayton Connects

Welcome Dayton is not a direct service provider/case manager. Think of Welcome Dayton as the “connector.”



# Community Involvement & Support

- International Women's Day
- World Refugee Day
- Voices of the Immigrant Experience
- Panel Discussions
- Immigration Clinics
- Business Roundtables
- FAFSA Day
- Miami Valley Community ID Card
- Local festivals and events
- New American Art Exhibit (Dayton Metro Library)
- ENACT – 937 (Emerging New American Community Team)



# Community Engagement Division

## Department of Planning, Neighborhoods & Development

Welcome Dayton staff attend Neighborhood Association meetings, Business Association meetings, Neighborhood Presidents' Forums, etc. They liaise with the immigrant and refugee community and work to get more immigrants and refugees involved in the decision-making process in their neighborhoods and city.



# Community Engagement



# Certified Welcoming

In 2017, Dayton became the first city in the US to become “Certified Welcoming” by the national non-profit organization **Welcoming America**. Welcome Dayton is currently working on the recertification.



PROUDLY BASED IN

**Dayton, OH**

*a Certified Welcoming community.*



# The Immigrant Landscape of Dayton



# Immigrants in Montgomery County

Source: New American Economy and American Immigration Council

Report: *New Americans in Montgomery County and the City of Dayton*, March 15, 2022

- Population of Montgomery County: **531,687**  
Immigrants in Montgomery County: **25,400**  
or **4,8%**
- Total population decreased by 0.5% but immigrant population *increased* by +21.6% between 2015-2019.



# Immigrants in Montgomery County

## Demographics

About



of immigrants in Montgomery County are recent arrivals, with no more than 5 years of residency in the United States, meaning



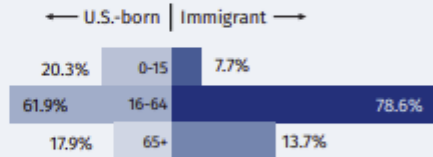
of immigrants in the county have resided in the United States for longer than 5 years.

In the county, immigrants are

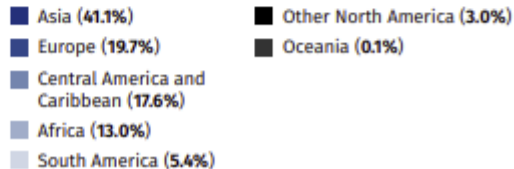


more likely to be of working-age<sup>4</sup> than their U.S.-born counterparts, allowing them to actively participate in the labor force and contribute to the economy as taxpayers and consumers.

Shares of population by age groups:<sup>5</sup>

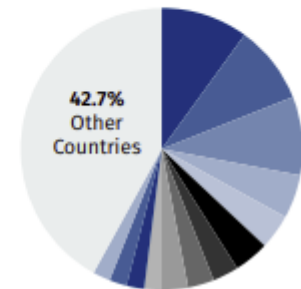
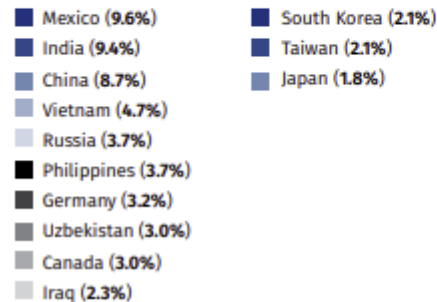


Breakdown of immigrants living in the county by regions of origin:



## Demographics *continued*

Top countries of origin for immigrants living in the county:



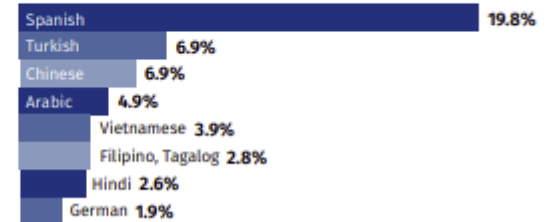
**5,200**

immigrants living in the county had limited English language proficiency, making up



of the immigrant population.<sup>6</sup>

Top languages spoken by immigrants at home other than English:



# Immigrants in the City of Dayton

Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2015-2019

140,569 -Total population  
7,024 – Foreign born pop.  
**4.9%**

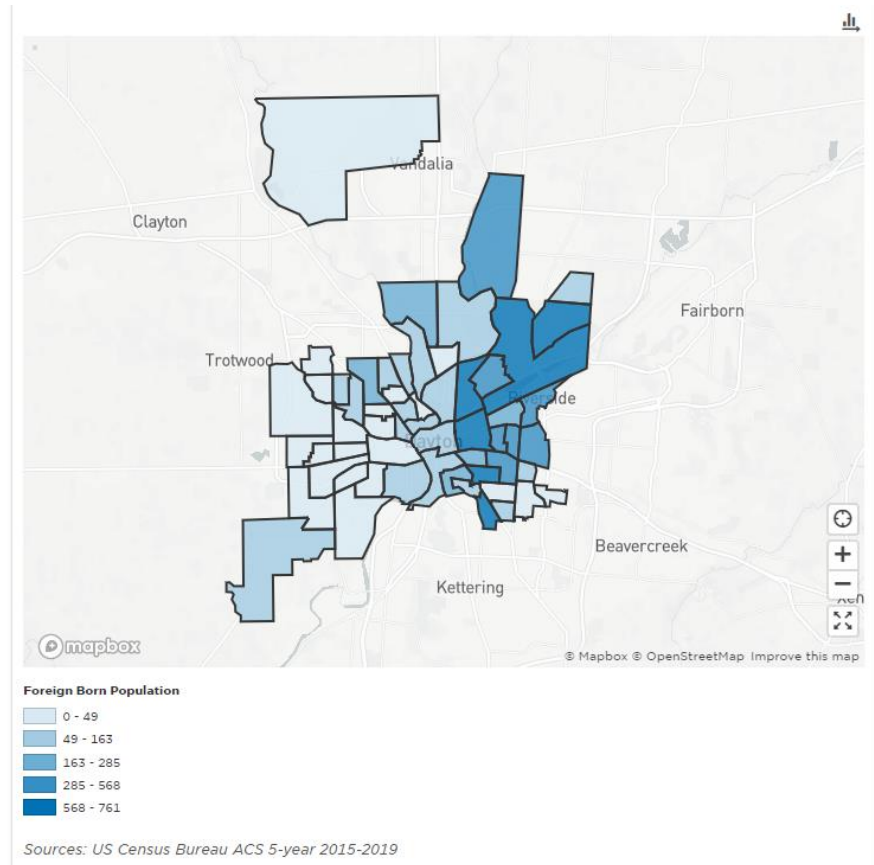
Asia – 37.7%

Latin America – 31.8%

Europe 14.2%

Africa 13.9%

Total population of Dayton decreased by 0.2% but immigrant population *increased* by +25.9% between 2015-2019.



# Immigrants in the City of Dayton

Immigrants from more than one hundred different countries call Dayton home.

The top countries of origin as of the 2020 U.S. Census are: **Mexico, China (Hong Kong & Taiwan), India, Vietnam, Guatemala, and Rwanda.**

Top languages spoken: **Spanish, Swahili, Kinyarwanda, Arabic, Turkish.**

Categories of immigrants: **Undocumented, Temporary Protected Status, Asylum Seekers, Asylees, Refugees, Green Card Holders, (Naturalized) Citizens.**



# Acceptance of Immigrants in Dayton

## Dayton, OH Resident Survey 2021

### Acceptance of Immigrants

#### Daytonians strongly welcome and support immigrants.

Residents report a significantly higher acceptance and supportiveness of immigrants in their neighborhoods in comparison to the 2019 survey. Acceptance of immigrants has grown nearly 13 points from the 2019, indicating strong support for diverse communities. Support is strong through all Land Use Councils and across demographics, but support is strongest Downtown and among younger residents.

#### Acceptance of Immigrants

Dayton, OH

**70.0%**

**Strongly agree or agree**

*"Do you agree or disagree with this statement? I would be supportive if an immigrant family moved in next door to me."*



# How to Connect with Your New American Neighbors



- Congo
- Czechoslovakia
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Germany
- Guatemala
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Mexico
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Slovakia
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Turkey
- Uzbekistan



# How to Connect with Your New American Neighbors



Desire with the owners of Umoja East and Central African Market and Matt Tepper, President of the Old North Dayton Neighborhood Association.



# Connecting by Promoting

Grand Opening

**Umoja African Market**

Come see us today!

MAY 1, 2022 1-3 P.M.

2601 Stanley Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45409



  @umojafricanmarket



# Connecting by Partnering



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
RETAILERS CARE  
PROGRAM**

**GROW YOUR BUSINESS & CREATE  
SAFER NEIGHBORHOODS**

As a local business owner, you are eligible to participate in The Montgomery County Retailers Care Program. The Retailers Care Program is designed to help retailers like you mindfully reduce tobacco, alcohol, and lottery promotion around your store, establishing safer shopping experiences and healthier lifestyles for your neighbors. And the best part? It's of no cost to you to get involved.

- DECREASE TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, AND LOTTERY ADS
- ESTABLISH SAFER IN-STORE ACCESS TO THESE PRODUCTS
- GENERATE SAFER BUSINESS PLACES

Montgomery County Promotion Coalition | ADAMUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



# Connecting by Celebrating



**El Mapale Colombiano & Umoja at Taste of Old North Dayton in August.**



# Connecting by Inclusion



- Prayer Vigil after U.S. International Food Fire
- Ramadan at the Osman Gazi Mosque
- Translation of Neighborhood Flyers
- PHDMC CHEO Task Force Vaccination Clinic
- Longest Table
- Taste of Old North Dayton





# Overcoming Challenges to Connecting



- Cultural Differences and Understanding
- Language Barriers (access to translation)
- Sense of Ownership
- Space Constraints
- Time Constraints



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# Questions

