Do employers value employees with language and culture skills?

In a survey of 2100 U.S. HR departments...



Language Skills

93% of respondents value employees who are able to work effectively with customers, clients, and businesses from a range of different countries and cultures.

Culture Skills

66% of respondents reported identifying foreign language skills as part of the hiring process

41% of respondents reported a hiring preference for multilingual applicants



34% of respondents reported a hiring preference for candidates with multicultural experience

ZZ% of respondents reported a hiring preference for candidates with international experience

Industries with the greatest demand for foreign language ability

Government and Public Administration Information Services Educational Services Health Care Administrative Services



Customer Service Sales Vendor Management Marketing

Skill sets sought in combination with foreign language ability

College majors sought in combination with foreign language ability

Education Social Services Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Sciences

Data come from a 2014 survey of U.S. employers in the government, for-profit, and not-for-profit sectors, in 49 states and DC. Some of these results are reported in: "The demand for multilingual human capital in the U.S. labor market," by Damari, Rivers, Brecht, Gardner, Pulupa, and Robinson (2017), published in *Foreign Language Annals*: http://tinyurl.com/FLAnnalsDemand. This infographic was produced by the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland, www.nflc.umd.edu.

