



**Naturalization: An Immediate Defense Strategy
Mobilizing Coherent Community Responses to Changing
Immigration Policies, Houston, TX, June 9, 2017**

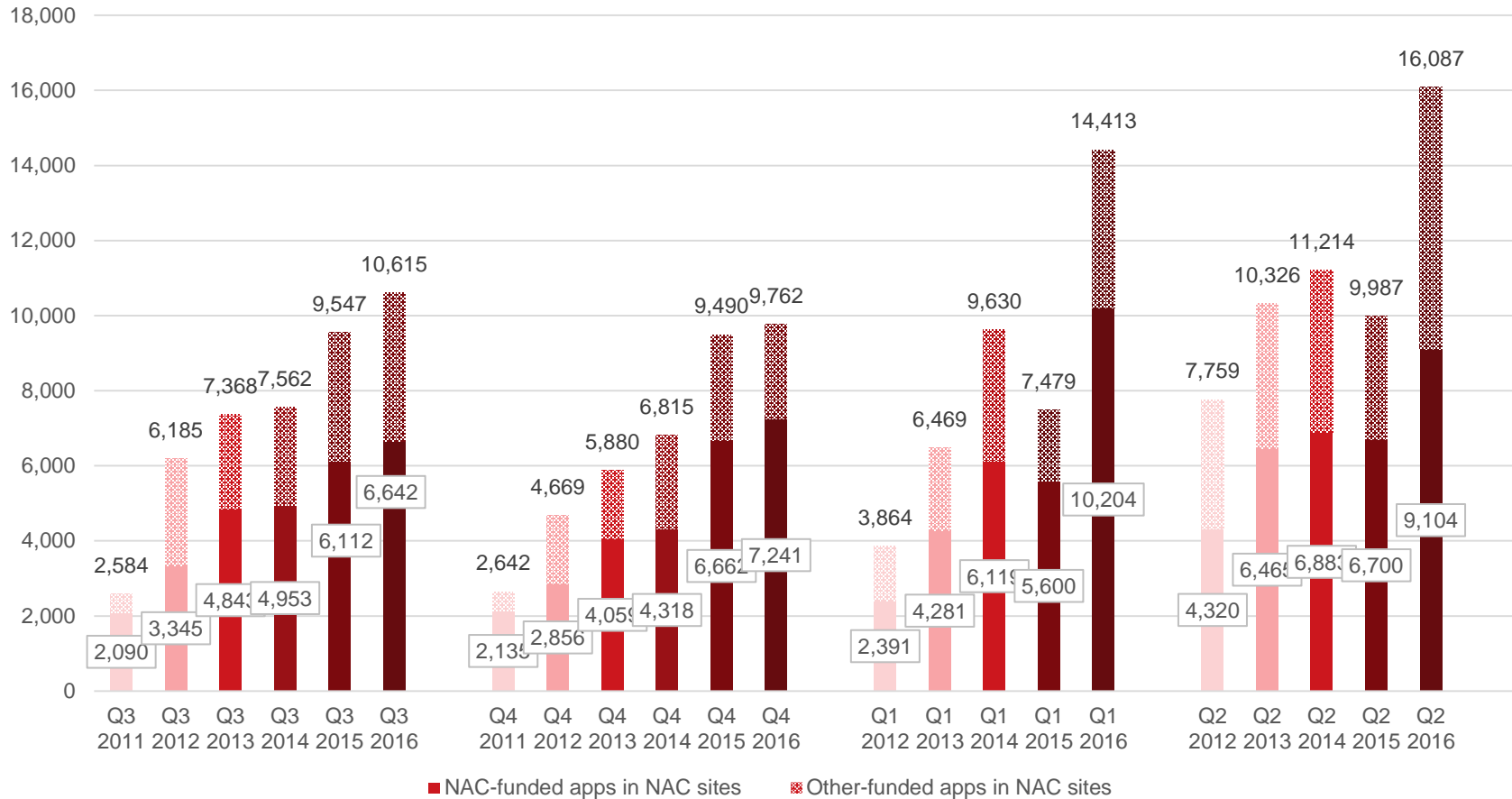
Explosion in Demand

- USCIS #s: FY2016 → 950K apps (average 750K-850K)
- Election year bump higher & sustained
- Huge uptick in turnout at NAC workshops
- High demand even after too late to vote in Presidential election
- USCIS processing time: 8-9 months instead of 5 months

Quarterly Year-Over-Year Applications Have Increased

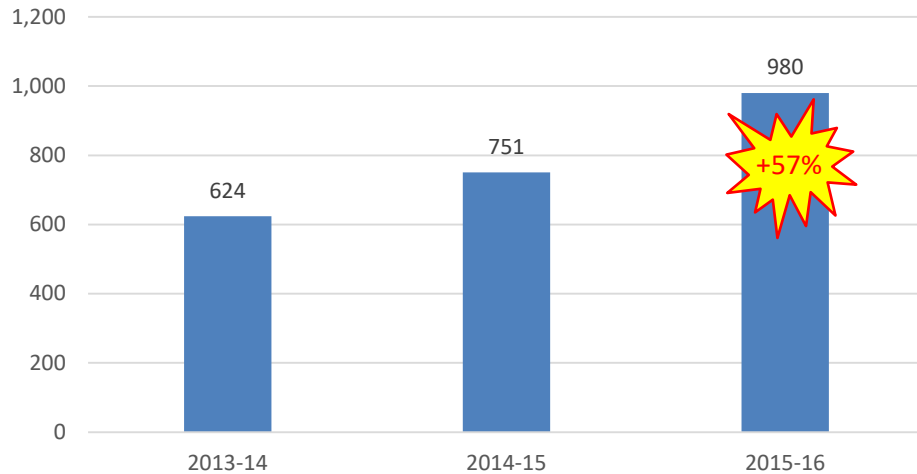
Data through Dec 2016

Apps in NAC Sites
All Funding Sources

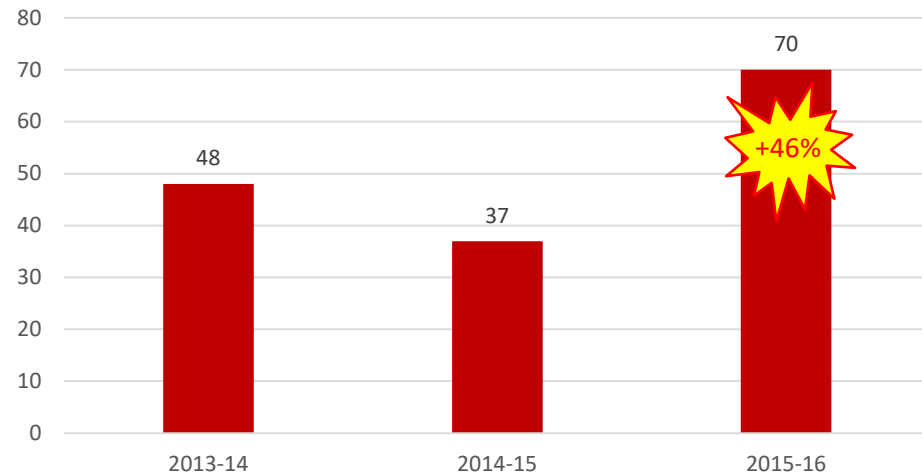


Growth in Number of Workshops

Workshops of All Sizes Increased by 57%



Large and Mega Workshops Increased by 46%



New Motivators for LPRs

- Increased desire to vote after 2016 outcome
- Fear of deportation
- Fear of not being able to return from travel
- Traditional motivators: better job opportunities, increased earnings, civic participation

Seizing the Moment

- Sense of urgency among LPRs
- One time intervention with lifelong benefit
 - Citizen for life
 - Minor children may be able to derive citizenship
- An immediate defense strategy
 - Long-term game changer electorally
 - Builds immigrant power



Recommendations

- Increase # of workshops
- Build capacity - can scale up with funding
- Increase USCIS staffing to process apps
- Donate space, food, volunteers for workshops





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