

APPENDIX E – DEMOGRAPHICS FOR ARLINGTON COUNTY

As part of the research for the Arlington County Public Spaces Master Plan, the following demographic information was compiled from a variety of sources including the US Census, Experian/Applied Geographic Solutions (a nationwide subscriber service for demographic and research information) and the Arlington County Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development.

All of these sources utilize different age cohort groupings, and they are also different from the age groupings utilized by ETC Institute/Leisure Vision, the firm hired to complete all four of Arlington County's most recent statistically-valid surveys. Therefore, exact numbers will not match up for age groupings, but the attempt has been made to include the "best" groupings for each type of analysis.

A. Community Profile and Demographic Study

1. Service Area and Population

The service area for this study is Arlington County, which encompasses 25.8 square miles and is located directly across the Potomac River from Washington County. The population for the county in 2004 is 198,739 people according to the Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development.

2. Population, Age Ranges, and Family Information

a. Age Distribution

In order to separate the population into age-sensitive user groups, and retain the ability to adjust to future age-sensitive trends, the following age categories are utilized based on the 2003 Experian / Applied Geographic Solutions Analysis. 2004 population distributions according to the Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development are shown following this section.

- ▶ **Under 5 years (8.1%)** – This group represents users of preschool and tot programs and facilities, and as trails and open space users, are often in strollers. These individuals are the future participants in youth activities.
- ▶ **5 to 13 years (8.3%)** – This group represents current youth program participants.
- ▶ **14 to 24 years (10.20 %)** – This group represents teen/young adult program participants moving out of the youth programs and into adult programs. Members of this age group are often seasonal employment seekers.
- ▶ **25 years to 34 years (22.4%)** – This group represents involvement in adult programming with characteristics of beginning long-term relationships and establishing families.
- ▶ **35 to 54 years (32.5%)** – This group represents users of a wide range of adult programming and park facilities. Their characteris-

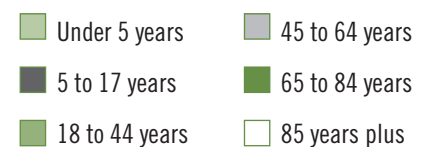
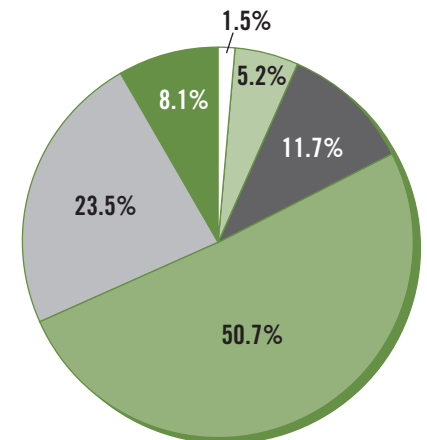
tics extend from having children using preschool and youth programs to becoming empty nesters.

- ▶ **55 years plus (18.5%)** – This group represents users of older adult programming exhibiting the characteristics of approaching retirement or already retired and typically enjoying grandchildren. This group generally also ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.

Figure 1: Population Breakdown – Arlington County (2004)

Source: 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development

3. Population Comparisons



According to Experian/ Applied Geographic Solutions 2003, the population of Arlington County is similar to that of the state of Virginia and the United States.

There are, however, significant differences in the age categories of 14 to 24, where Arlington County has a 5.2% lower average, and 25 to 34, where Arlington County has an 8.9% higher average. All other age categories vary by less than 4.5% from the State of Virginia and National averages.

4. Gender

The population consists of 50.5% male and 49.5% female.

Source: Experian/ Applied Geographic Solutions 2003

5. Ethnicity

Statistics gathered from the 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development data provide the ethnic breakdown for Arlington County. Of the population responding, 100% indicated they were of **one** of the following races:

- 57.9% White,
- 20.4% Hispanic

- 9.4% Asian,
- 9.1% African American
- 0.2%, American Indian and Alaska Native
- 3% of respondents indicated **some other** race or **two or more** races

6. Educational Attainment

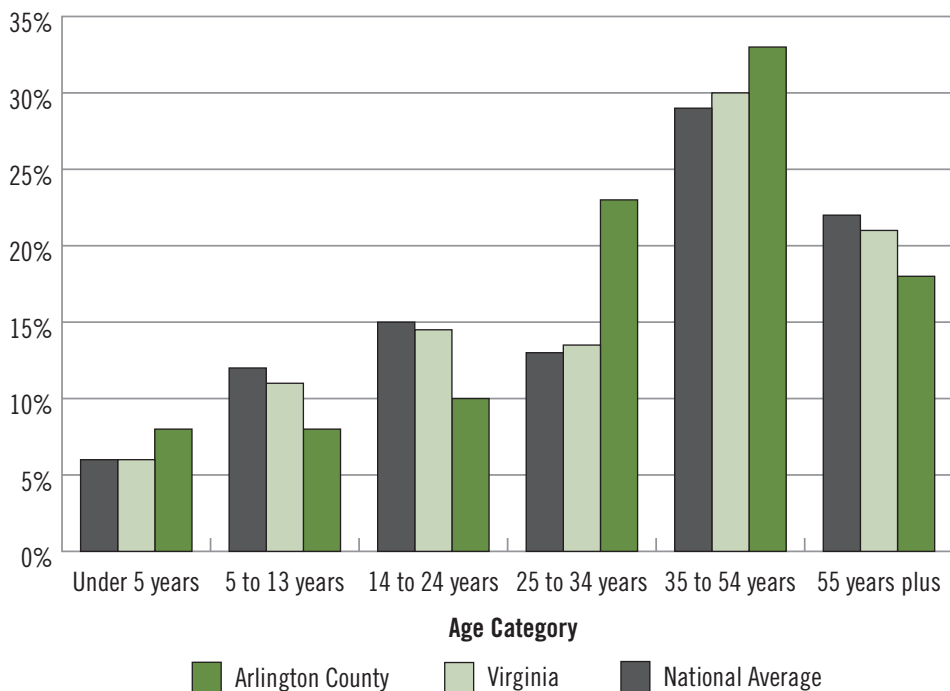
60% of Arlington County residents have earned a Bachelor's or higher with 29.5% having a Bachelor's degree and 30.5% having a Graduate degree.

Source: Experian/ Applied Geographic Solutions 2003

7. Household Income

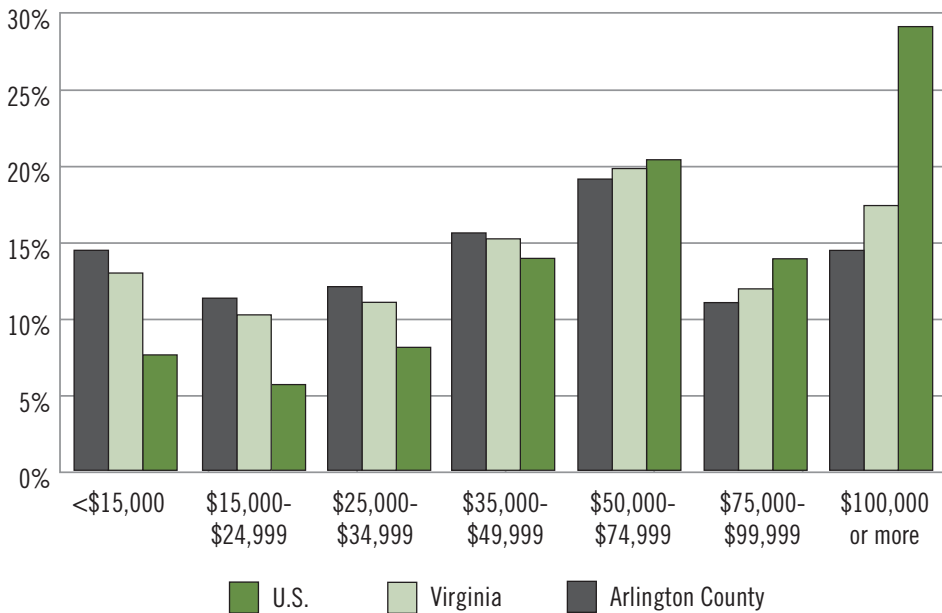
According to the 2004 population distributions from the Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development the median household income in 2004 was \$70,942. Census data released in 1990 reported the area's median household income as \$44,786, an increase of \$26,156 over the last fourteen years. Median family income for 2004 is \$88,819 and per capita income is \$54,258.

Figure 2: Population Comparisons – Arlington County, State of Virginia, and United States (2003)



Source: Experian/ Applied Geographic Solutions 2003

Figure 3: Household Income – Arlington County Compared to State of Virginia and the U.S.



Source: Experian/ Applied Geographic Solutions 2003

The largest share of households (29.9%) earns \$100,000 or more, followed next by those earning \$50,000 to \$74,999 (20.6%). 14.4% earn \$75,000 to \$99,999, while another 13.7% earn \$35,000 to \$49,999. 7.9% earn \$25,000 to \$34,999 and 7.7% of the population earns less than \$15,000. The smallest percentage of the population earns \$15,000 to \$24,999 (5.8%).

Arlington County's household

income differs significantly from that of the State of Virginia and the U.S. in that there is a 12.1% greater average in the population earning \$100,000 or more. In the lower income categories Arlington County falls below both the State and National averages, but starting at the \$50,000 to \$74,999 category Arlington County's average is higher than both.

8. Household Size

The average household size in

Arlington County is 2.12 people.

Source: 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development

9. Employment Forecasts

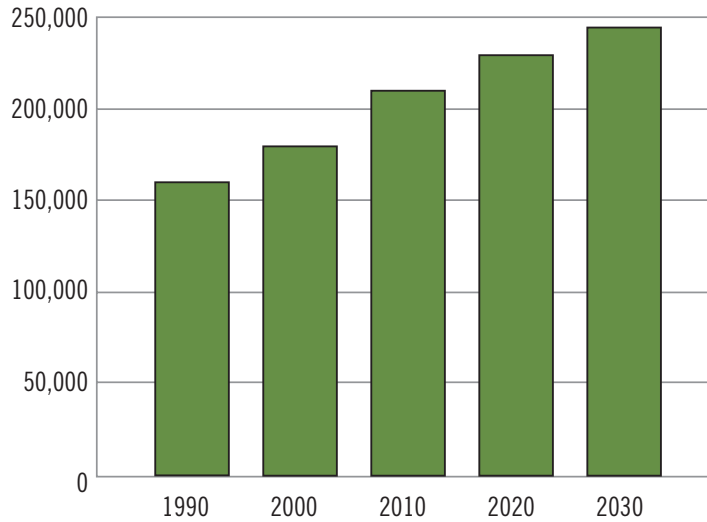
Employment in Arlington County is expected to significantly increase in the coming years. In 2000 the number employed was 188,376 people; it is expected to be 275,798 by the year 2030, an increase of 46% over 30 years.

Source: 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development

10. Population Forecasts

Although we can never know the future with certainty, it is helpful to make assumptions about it for economic reasons. The 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development has researched economic and demographic trends in the local economy and produced the following results for the County as a whole. Arlington County will continue to grow at an average of 1,752 people per year, and by 28% between the years of 2000 – 2030.

Figure 4: Population Projections through year 2030



Source: 2004 Arlington County, Virginia, Department of Planning, Housing and Development

11. Daytime Population

Arlington County's daytime population exceeds the residential population due to the influx of employees into the county from other areas. This daytime population is expected to reach 322,500 by the year 2010. The daytime population differential in Arlington is important to consider because a significant number of these non-residents do make use of

Arlington facilities and services. The open space and recreation needs of the daytime population are very different from those of residents in that the demand is highly concentrated during the lunch time period and after work hours. Participants are also more likely to favor open space and amenities conveniently located near the work site due to time constraints.