



# FREDERICK COUNTY AND THE WASHINGTON REGION: A LOOK AT ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

APRIL 2006

*Welcome to the seventh issue in a series of in-depth analyses on member jurisdictions in the Washington region. This newsletter contains economic and demographic data on Frederick County, placed in the context of the Washington region.*

## Population

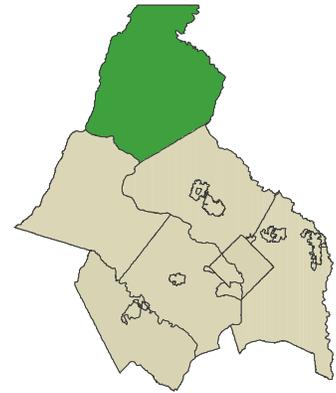
The population of Frederick County, according to the 2000 Census, is 195,300 people. Frederick's residents constitute **four percent** of the Washington region's 4.5 million people.

Between 2000 and 2030, Frederick County's population is anticipated to grow by more than **144,400 people**, an increase of **74 percent**, while the region is expected to grow by more than 2 million people or 45 percent.

**Twenty-eight percent** of the population in Frederick County is under 18 years old. Frederick County has the third highest local share of children in the region, higher than the regional average of 25 percent.

The County's nearly 19,000 'seniors' age 65 and older account for **ten percent** of the population. This represents a slightly higher proportion of seniors compared to the regional average of nine percent.

Eighty-nine percent of Frederick County's population is white; six percent is black or African-American; and two percent is Asian. Nearly 4,700 people—two percent of Frederick County's population—also indicated that they are Hispanic or Latino. Regionally, 56 percent of the population is white; 28 percent is black or African-American; and eight percent is Asian. One out of ten people in the Washington region is Hispanic or Latino.

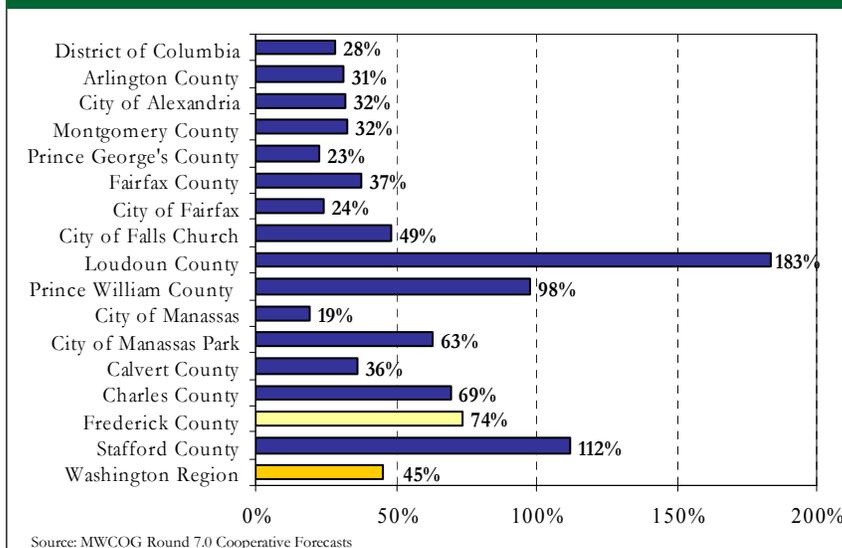


## Land Area

Frederick County covers **663 square miles** and comprises **22 percent** of the Washington region's land area. The County has a population density of nearly **295 people** per square mile. It is less densely populated than the regional average of 1,395 people per square mile.

In Focus: Frederick County

Percent Population Growth by Jurisdiction  
Forecast 2000–2030



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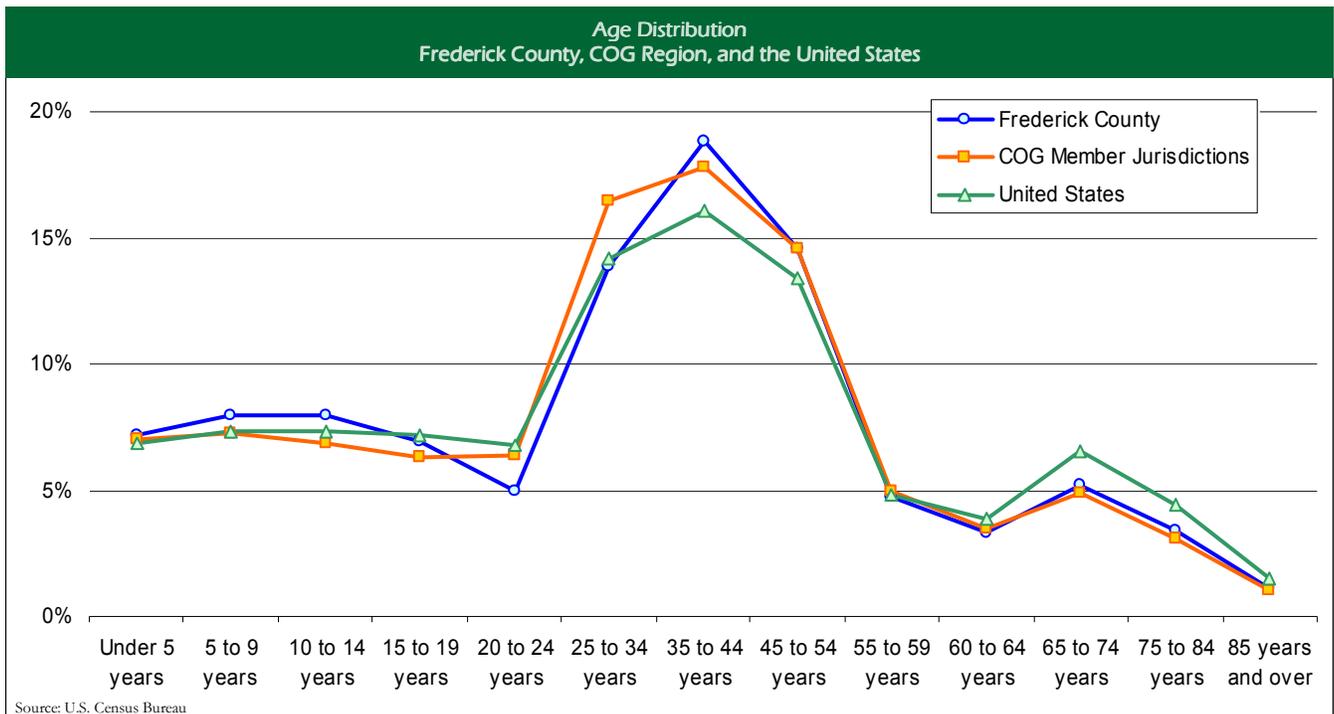
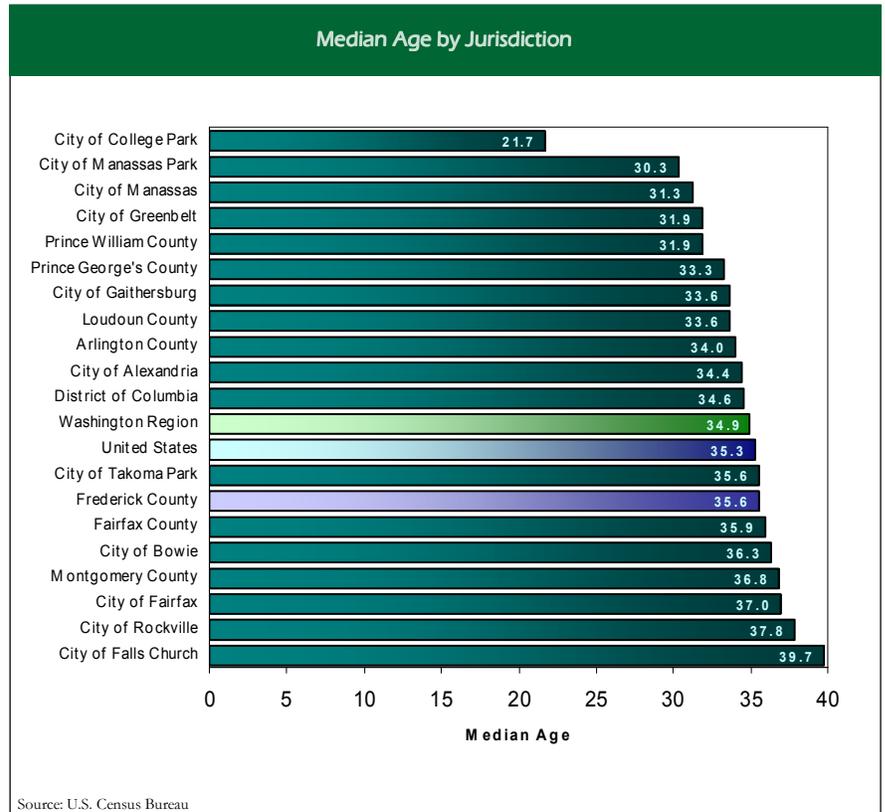
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*Population (continued)*

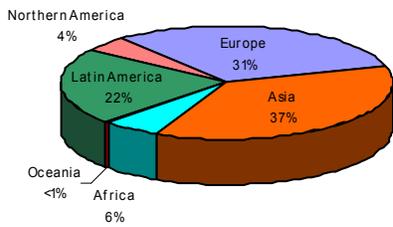
The median age of Frederick County residents is 35.6 years, slightly older than the median age in the Washington region (34.9 years), and the United States (35.3 years.)

Compared to the United States, Frederick County has a higher proportion of people who are 35 to 44 years old. Frederick County also has a higher percentage 'seniors,' people who are 65 and over, when compared to the United States and the Washington region.

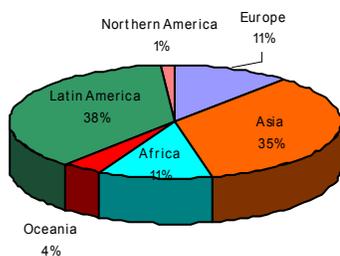




**Region of Birth of Foreign Born in Frederick County**



**Region of Birth of Foreign Born in the Washington Region**



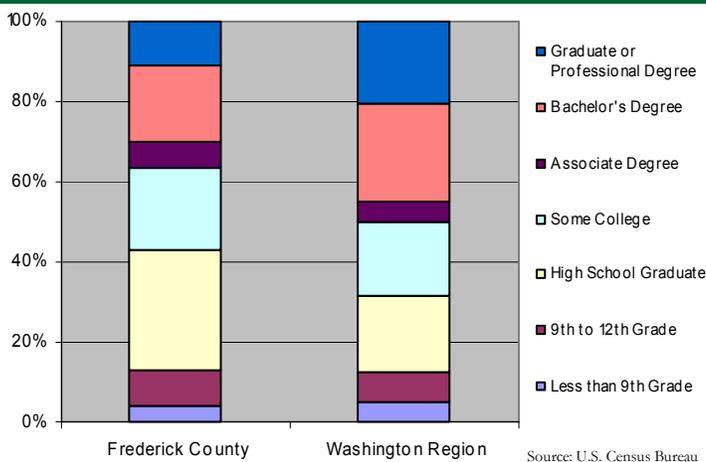
Note: Oceania refers to Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of the Pacific Ocean  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Foreign Born

Frederick County has a lower percentage of foreign born residents compared to other jurisdictions in the Washington region. **Four percent** of the County's population was born in another country, compared to the regional average of 19 percent. Of the foreign born, **37 percent** originate from Asia, 31 percent from Europe, 22 percent from Latin America, and six percent from Africa.

Several foreign languages are spoken by Frederick County residents—**six percent** of the population speaks a language other than English at home. Two percent of Frederick residents speak Spanish, two percent speak another Indo-European language, and one percent speak an Asian or Pacific Island language.

**Educational Attainment**



## Education

More than **54,000 people** in Frederick County (**28 percent** of the population) are enrolled in school. Eighty percent of these enrollees are school age children, and 20 percent are college or graduate students.

**Thirty percent** of Frederick County residents over age 25 have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 45 percent in the Washington region. **Eleven percent** of the County's residents have a graduate or professional degree, compared with 21 percent of the region's population.

## Marital Status

Frederick County has the region's second highest percentage of married residents— **61 percent** of the population 15 years and older— compared to 52 percent of the region's population.

## Residence

Frederick County residents move or relocate at a rate less than the regional average. **Forty-three percent** of the County's residents moved between 1995 and 2000, compared with 44 percent of the region's population.



## Employment

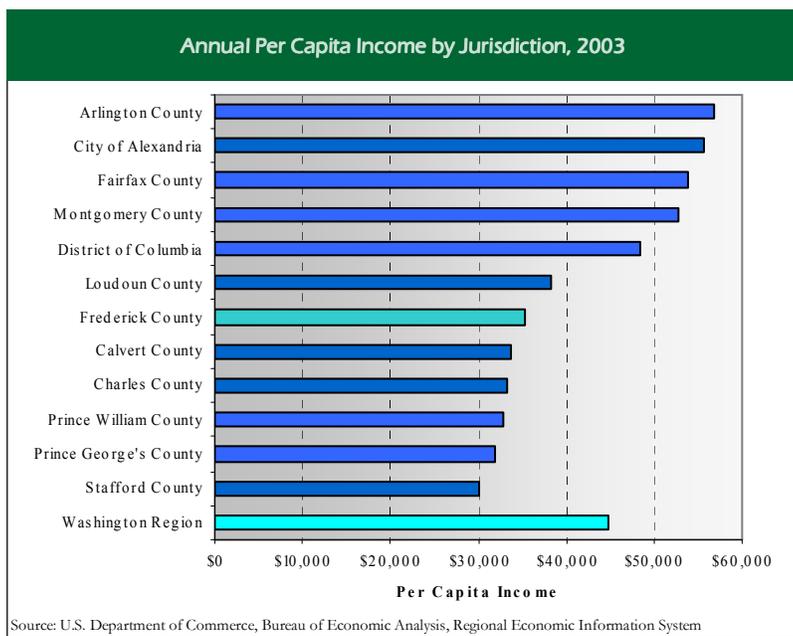
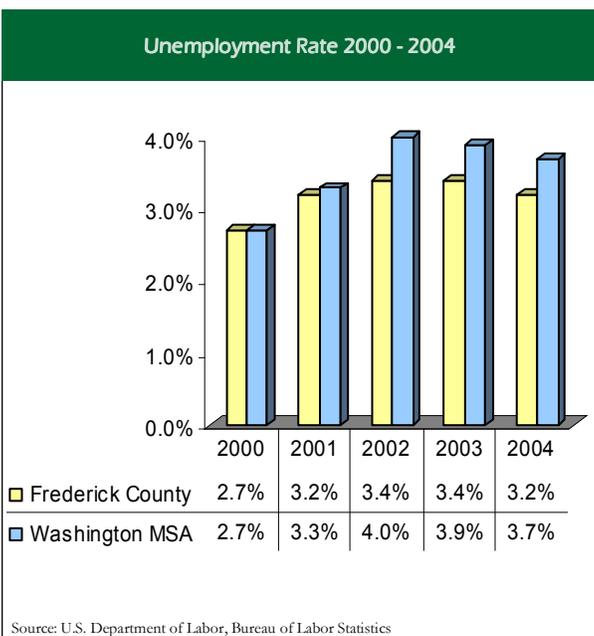
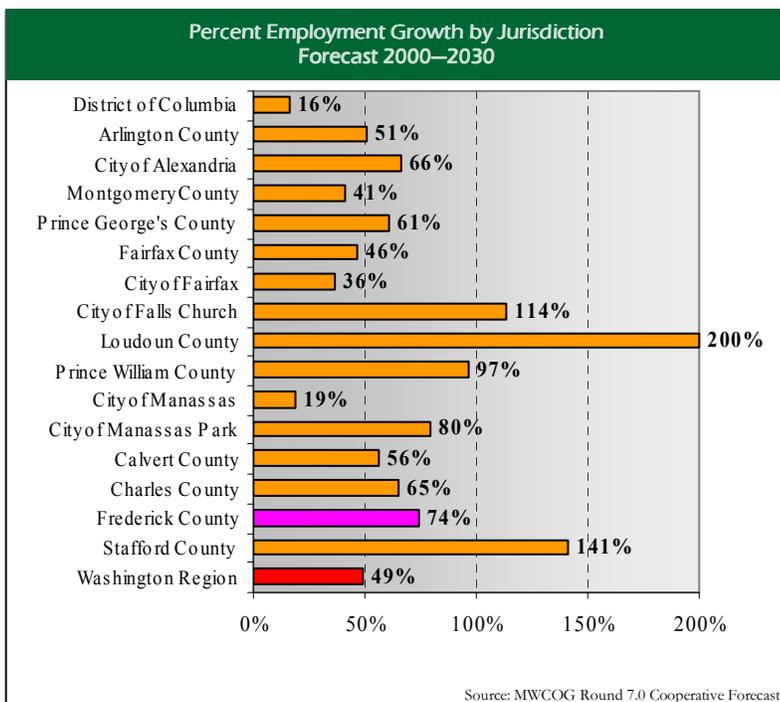
Between 2000 and 2030, Frederick County is projected to add **71,000 jobs**, or an increase of **74 percent**. During the same period, the region is expected to add nearly 1.4 million jobs or an increase of approximately 49 percent.

## Income

Frederick County had a per capita income of **\$35,423** in 2003. The per capita income for the Washington region was \$44,757.

## Unemployment Rate

Over the last five years, Frederick County has enjoyed an unemployment rate lower than the regional average. In 2004, the County had an unemployment rate of **3.2 percent**, while the regional unemployment rate was 3.7 percent.



## Construction

Nearly **7.6 million square feet** of commercial development was constructed in Frederick County over the last five years—this represents four percent of all commercial development in the Washington region.

## Federal Spending

In Fiscal Year 2003, Frederick County received more than **\$222.1 million** in salaries and wages from the federal government. This figure represents approximately one percent of the region's federal salaries and wages. Frederick County was home to **\$805 million** in federal procurement, capturing two percent of the region's federal contract awards.



## Home Sales

The number of homes sold in Frederick County increased **51 percent** between 2000 and 2004, compared with the regional average of 42 percent. A total of **20,307 homes** were sold in the County during that time period, which is approximately four percent of the total home sales in the region.

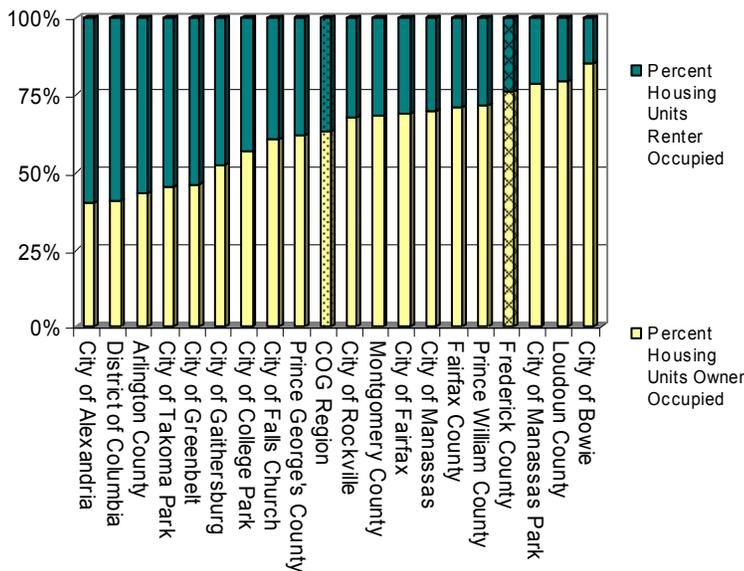
## Housing

Frederick County has the fourth highest percentage of owner-occupied housing in the Washington region. More than 53,000, or **76 percent**, of the County's housing units are owner-occupied, compared with 62 percent of the Washington region's housing units.

Frederick County residents pay a higher median gross rent than the regional median. In 2000, the median gross rent in Frederick County was **\$719 a month**, \$102 lower than the regional median gross rent of \$821 per month.

The average household size in Frederick County is larger than the regional average of 2.59 people per household. At **2.72 people per household**, Frederick County has the eighth highest household size in the Washington region.

Owner-Occupied and Renter-Occupied Housing Units



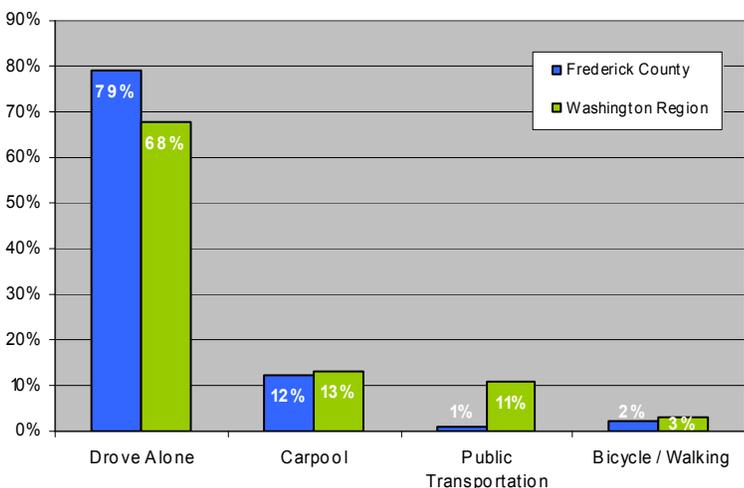
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Commuting

**Seventy-nine percent** of Frederick County resident workers commute to work by driving alone, compared with 68 percent of the Washington region's workers. **One percent** of the County's resident workers use public transportation, compared with 11 percent of the Washington region's workers. **Twelve percent** of resident workers of Frederick County use carpooling as a means of transportation to their jobs, compared with 13 percent of the region's workers.

**Sixty-eight percent** of Frederick County residents commute to work in less than 45 minutes. In comparison, 72 percent of the region's workers have a travel time of less than 45 minutes.

Means of Transportation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Vehicle Ownership

Of the 70,060 occupied housing units in Frederick County, **five percent** (3,481 housing units) do not have vehicles. For renter-occupied housing units, approximately **14 percent** do not have vehicles. Eleven percent of the region's occupied housing units and 23 percent of the renter-occupied units do not have vehicles.

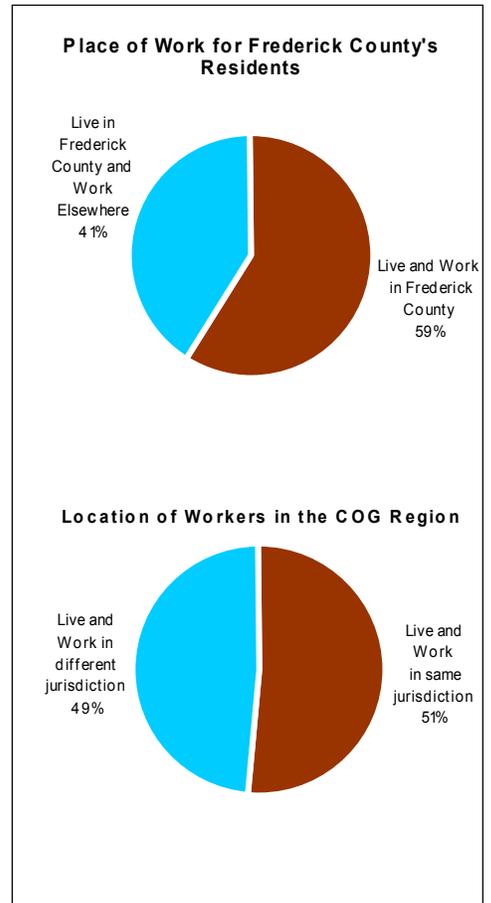


## Commuting Patterns

Of the **84,731** workers employed in Frederick County, 71 percent (60,272 workers) live in the County. Five percent of workers employed in Frederick County commute from Montgomery County. There are **102,318** resident workers in Frederick County. Fifty-nine percent of Frederick County's resident workers are employed in the County. The largest percentage of residents who commute to jobs located outside the County work in Montgomery County (22 percent) and the District of Columbia (three percent).

Place of Residence for Frederick County's Workforce			Place of Work for Frederick County's Residents		
COG Region	Frederick County	60,272	COG Region	Frederick County	60,272
	Montgomery County	4,104		Montgomery County	22,867
	Loudoun County	405		District of Columbia	3,025
	Prince George's County	358		Fairfax County	1,786
	Fairfax County	213		Prince George's County	1,188
	District of Columbia	121		Loudoun County	1,151
	Arlington County	41		Arlington County	537
	City of Manassas	33		City of Alexandria	151
	Prince William County	19		Prince William County	112
	City of Alexandria	15		City of Fairfax	104
	City of Falls Church	14		City of Manassas Park	28
	City of Fairfax	0		City of Manassas	11
	City of Manassas Park	0		City of Falls Church	5
	Outside COG Region	Warren County		42	Outside COG Region
Clarke County		21	Fauquier County	14	
Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg		18	Warren County	12	
Fauquier County		15	King George County	9	
Stafford County		8	Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg	5	
King George County		5	Culpeper County	0	
Culpeper County		0	Clarke County	0	
Other Virginia Jurisdictions		144	Other Virginia Jurisdictions	47	
Baltimore PMSA		4,130	Baltimore PMSA	6,484	
Charles County		8	Calvert County	20	
Calvert County		8	Charles County	12	
Other Maryland Jurisdictions		7,470	Other Maryland Jurisdictions	2,241	
Pennsylvania		3,978	Pennsylvania	1,095	
West Virginia		2,886	West Virginia	546	
Elsewhere	403	Elsewhere	557		
<b>Total Jobs</b>	<b>84,731</b>	<b>Total Resident Workers</b>	<b>102,318</b>		
Live and Work in Frederick County	60,272	Live and Work in Frederick County	60,272		
Work in Frederick County and Live Elsewhere	24,459	Live in Frederick County and Work Elsewhere	42,046		
<b>Total Jobs</b>	<b>84,731</b>	<b>Total Resident Workers</b>	<b>102,318</b>		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

