



# THE CITY OF BOWIE AND THE WASHINGTON REGION: A LOOK AT ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

JUNE 2006

Welcome to the twelfth issue in a series of in-depth analyses on member jurisdictions in the Washington region. This newsletter contains economic and demographic data on the City of Bowie and Prince George's County, placed in the context of the Washington region.

## Population

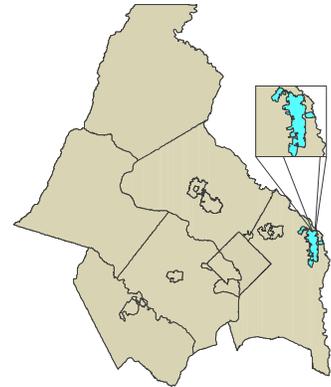
The population of the City of Bowie, according to the 2000 Census, is 50,269 people. Bowie residents constitute **one percent** of the Washington region's 4.5 million people.

The City of Bowie is located in Prince George's County. Between 2000 and 2030, Prince George's County's population is anticipated to grow by **185,000 people**, an increase of **23 percent**, while the region is expected to grow by more than 2 million people or 45 percent.

Nearly **27 percent** of the population in the City of Bowie is under 18 years old. This represents a higher proportion of children compared to the regional average of 25 percent.

The City's more than 4,700 'seniors' age 65 and older account for **nine percent** of the population. This percentage is the same as the Washington region as a whole.

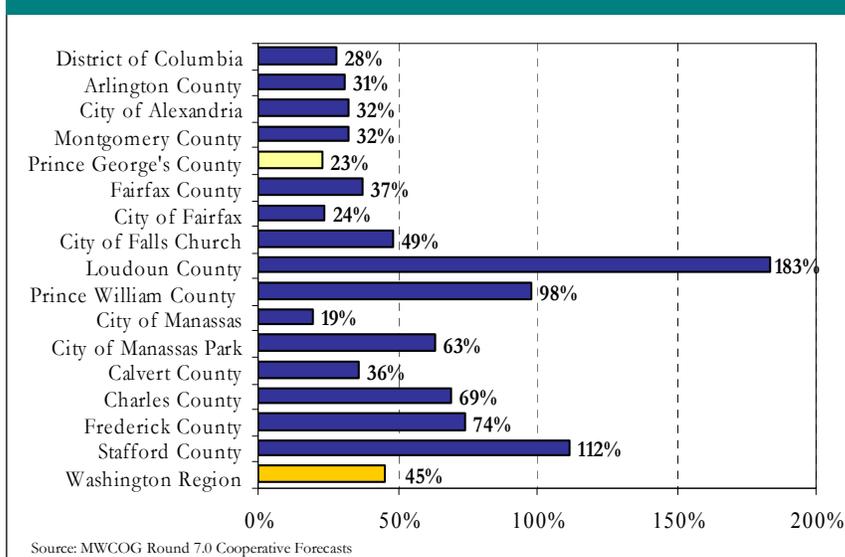
Sixty-three percent of the City of Bowie's population is white; 31 percent is black or African-American; and three percent is Asian. Nearly 1,500 people—three percent of the City of Bowie's population—also indicated that they are Hispanic or Latino. Regionally, 56 percent of the population is white; 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

The City of Bowie covers **16 square miles** and comprises less than one percent of the Washington region's land area. The City has a population density of more than **3,142 people** per square mile. It is more densely populated than the regional average of 1,395 people per square mile.

Percent Population Growth by Jurisdiction  
Forecast 2000–2030



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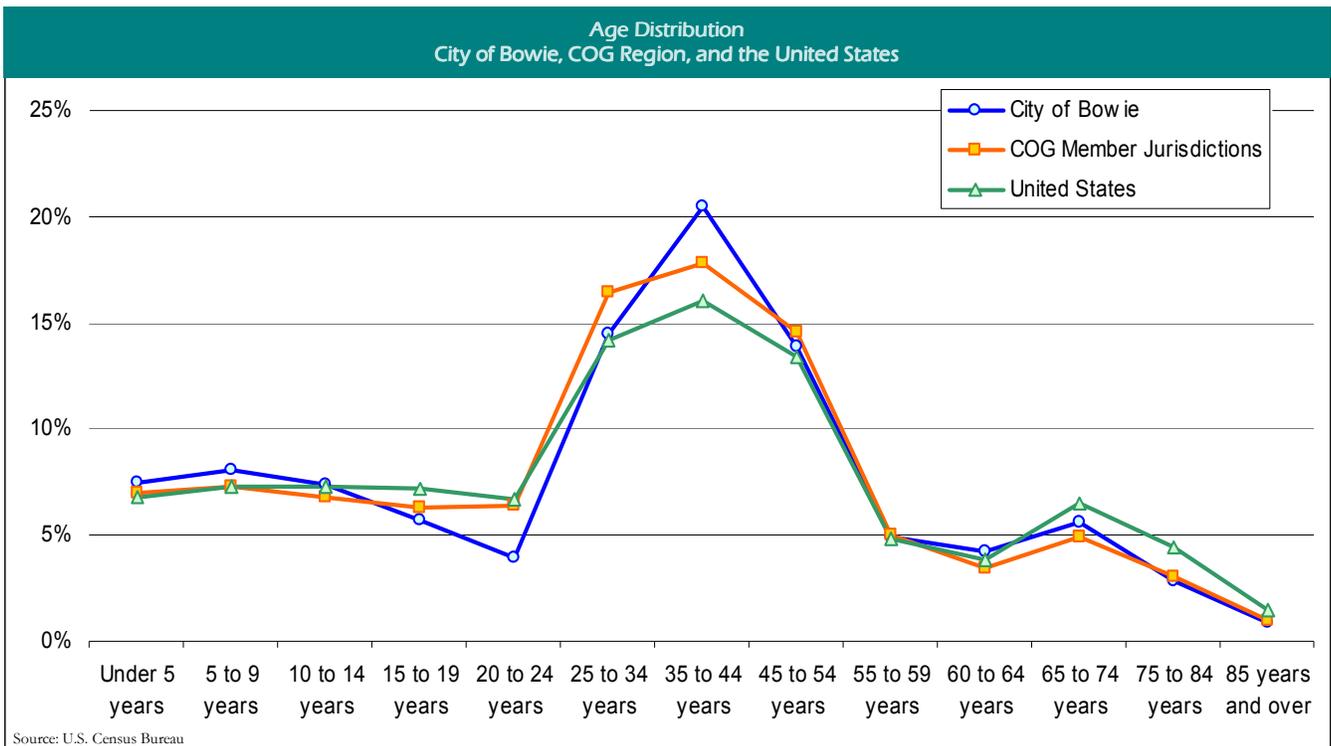
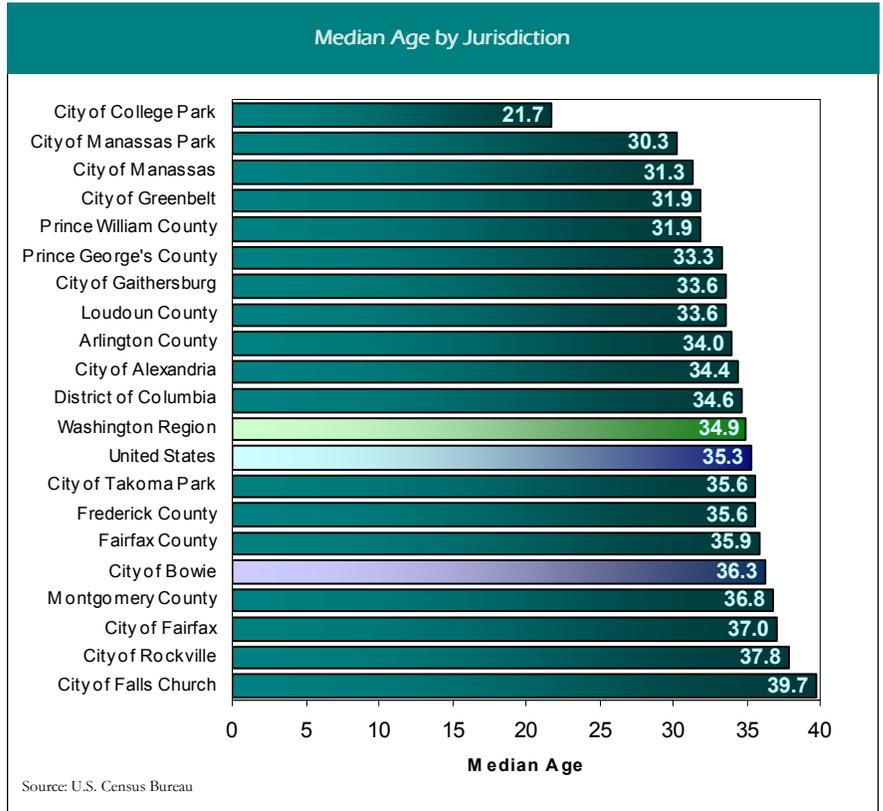
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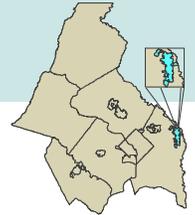


*Population (continued)*

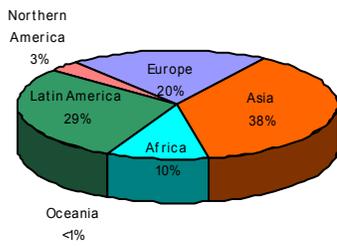
The median age of Bowie residents is 36.3 years, slightly older than the median age in the Washington region (34.9 years) and the United States (35.3 years.)

Compared to the United States and the Washington region, the City of Bowie has a lower proportion of young adults between 20 and 24 years old. **One-fifth** of Bowie residents are between 35 and 44 years old.

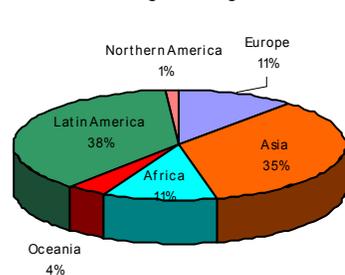




**Region of Birth of Foreign Born in the City of Bowie**



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



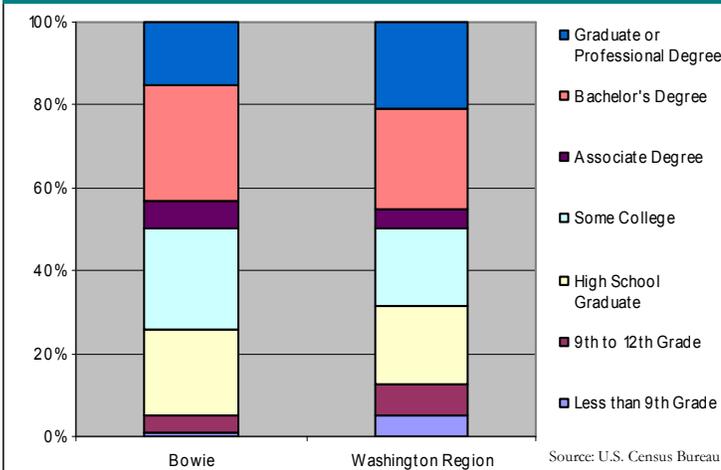
Note: Oceania refers to Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of the Pacific Ocean  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Foreign Born

The City of Bowie has a lower percentage of foreign born residents compared to other jurisdictions in the Washington region. **Seven percent** of the City’s population was born in another country, compared to the regional average of 19 percent. Of the foreign born, 38 percent originate from Asia, 29 percent from Latin America, and 20 percent from Europe.

A variety of foreign languages are spoken by Bowie residents—**nine percent** of the population speaks a language other than English at home. Three percent of Bowie residents speak Spanish, three percent speak another Indo-European language, and two percent speak an Asian or Pacific Island language.

## Educational Attainment



## Education

Nearly **14,500 people** in the City of Bowie (**29 percent** of the population) are enrolled in school. Seventy-four percent of these enrollees are school age children, and 26 percent are college or graduate students.

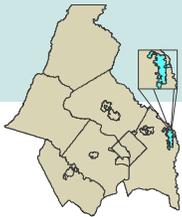
**Forty-three percent** of Bowie residents over age 25 have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 45 percent in the Washington region. **Fifteen percent** of Bowie residents have a graduate or professional degree, compared with 21 percent of the region’s population.

## Marital Status

Bowie residents have a higher rate of marriage— **60 percent** of the population 15 years and older— compared to 52 percent of the region’s population.

## Residence

Bowie residents move or relocate at a rate slightly less than the regional average. **Forty-two percent** of Bowie residents moved between 1995 and 2000, compared with 44 percent of the region’s population.



## Employment

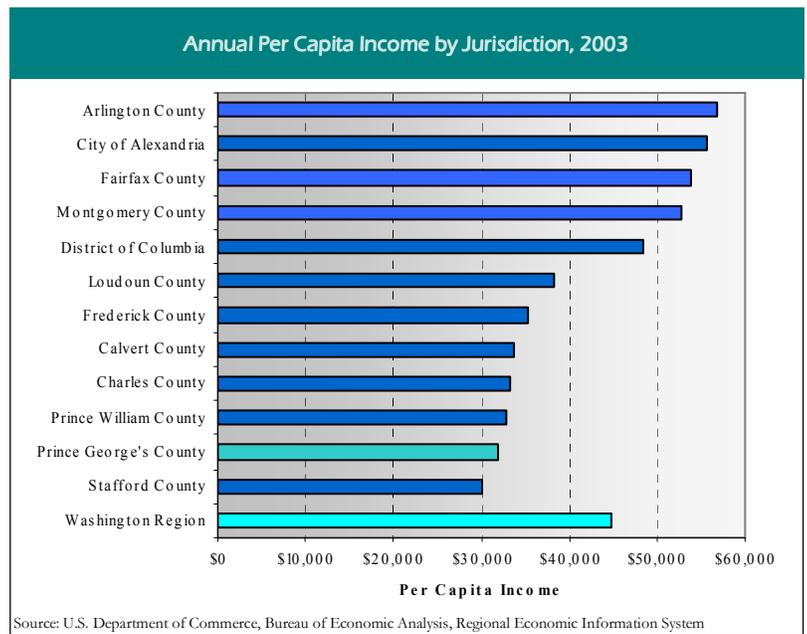
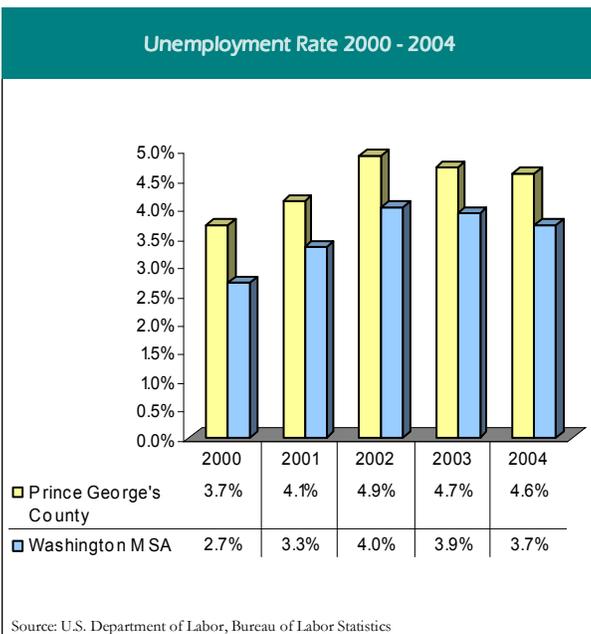
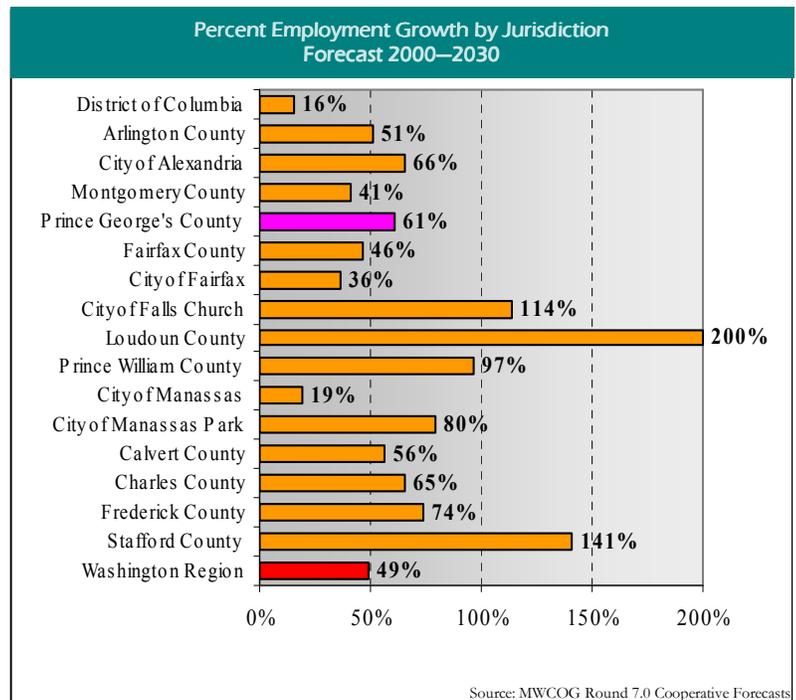
Between 2000 and 2030, Prince George's County is projected to add **206,400 jobs**, or an increase of **61 percent**. During the same period, the region is expected to add nearly 1.4 million jobs or an increase of approximately 49 percent.

## Income

Prince George's County had a per capita income of **\$31,936** in 2003. The per capita income for the Washington region was \$44,757.

## Unemployment Rate

Over the last five years, Prince George's County experienced an unemployment rate higher than the regional average. In 2004, Prince George's County had an unemployment rate of **4.6 percent**, while the regional unemployment rate was 3.7 percent.



## Construction

Nearly **1.5 million square feet** of commercial development was constructed in the City of Bowie over the last five years. This represents less than one percent of all commercial development in the Washington region.

## Federal Spending

In Fiscal Year 2003, Prince George's County received more than **\$2.2 billion** in salaries and wages from the federal government. This figure represents approximately eight percent of the region's federal salaries and wages. Prince George's County was home to more than **\$3.3 billion** in federal procurement, capturing eight percent of the region's federal contract awards.



## Home Sales

The number of homes sold in Prince George's County increased **59 percent** between 2000 and 2004, compared with the regional average of 42 percent. A total of **61,721 homes** were sold in Prince George's County during that time period, which is approximately 13 percent of the total home sales in the region.

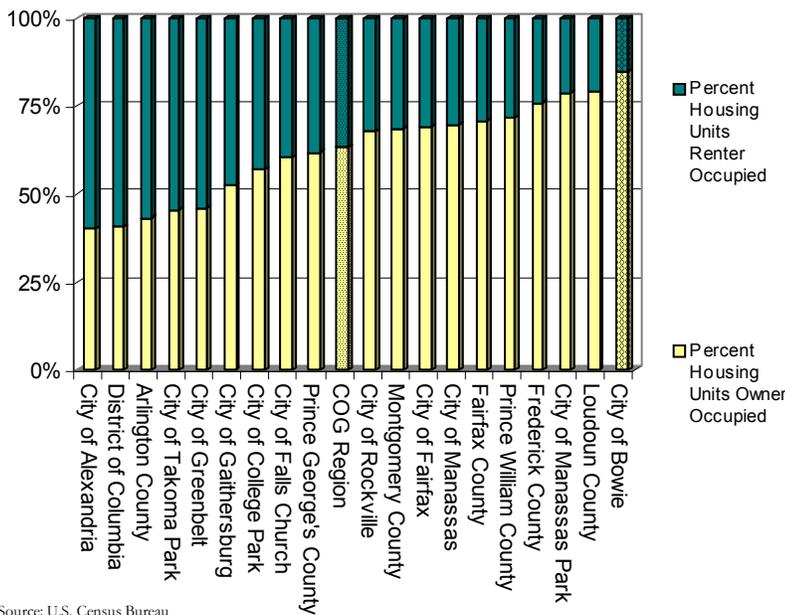
## Housing

The City of Bowie has the highest percentage of owner-occupied housing in the Washington region. Nearly 15,500, or **85 percent**, of the City of Bowie's housing units are owner-occupied, compared with 63 percent of the Washington region's housing units.

Bowie residents pay the highest median gross rent in the Washington region. In 2000, the median gross rent in the City of Bowie was **\$1,094 a month**, \$273 higher than the regional median gross rent of \$821 per month.

The average household size in the City of Bowie is larger than the regional average of 2.59 people per household. At **2.74 people per household**, Bowie has the sixth largest household size in the Washington region.

Owner-Occupied and Renter-Occupied Housing Units



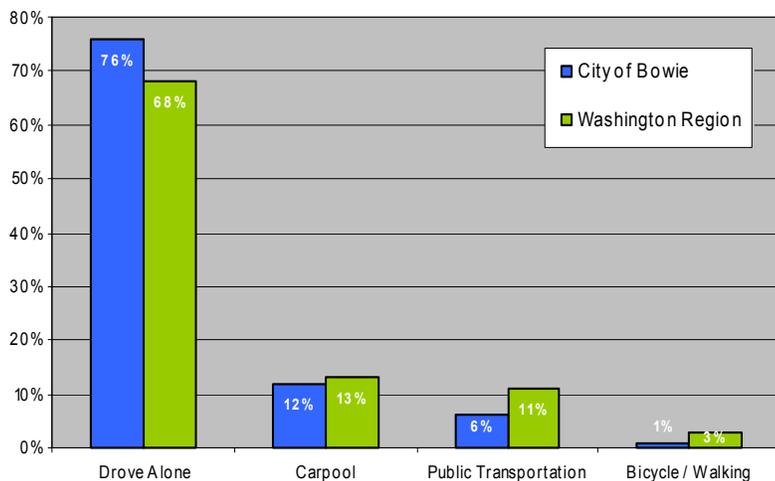
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Commuting

**Seventy-six percent** of Bowie resident workers commute to work by driving alone, compared with 68 percent of the Washington region's workers. **Six percent** of Bowie's resident workers use public transportation, compared with 11 percent of the Washington region's workers. **Twelve percent** of resident workers in the City of Bowie use carpooling as a means of transportation to their jobs, compared with 13 percent of the region's workers.

**Sixty-six percent** of Bowie 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

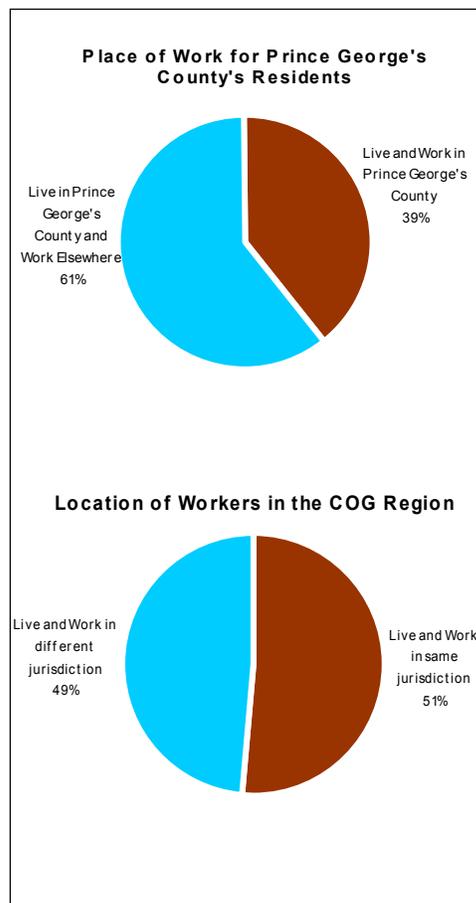
## Vehicle Ownership

Of the 15,426 occupied housing units in the City of Bowie, **three percent** (415 housing units) do not have vehicles. For renter-occupied housing units, approximately **10 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 **295,286** workers employed in Prince George's County, 53 percent (155,671 workers) live in Prince George's County. There are **397,403** resident workers in Prince George's County. Thirty-nine percent of the County's resident workers are employed in Prince George's County. The largest percentage of residents who commute to jobs located outside the County, work in the District of Columbia (32 percent), followed by Montgomery County (ten percent).



Place of Residence for Prince George's County's Workforce			Place of Work for Prince George's County's Residents		
COG Region	Prince George's County	155,671	Prince George's County	155,671	
	Montgomery County	26,825	District of Columbia	126,138	
	District of Columbia	13,655	Montgomery County	40,240	
	Fairfax County	9,594	Fairfax County	18,258	
	Arlington County	2,043	Arlington County	15,912	
	City of Alexandria	1,813	City of Alexandria	7,372	
	Prince William County	1,709	Loudoun County	1,006	
	Frederick County	1,188	City of Fairfax	926	
	Loudoun County	595	Prince William County	614	
	City of Fairfax	145	Frederick County	358	
	City of Manassas	135	City of Falls Church	293	
	City of Manassas Park	78	City of Manassas	164	
	City of Falls Church	69	City of Manassas Park	17	
	Stafford County	415	Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg	192	
Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg	375	Stafford County	167		
King George County	226	Fauquier County	110		
Fauquier County	135	Warren County	81		
Warren County	85	King George County	60		
Culpeper County	49	Culpeper County	6		
Clarke County	28	Clarke County	0		
Other Virginia Jurisdictions	723	Other Virginia Jurisdictions	376		
Outside COG Region		Outside COG Region			
Maryland		Maryland			
Baltimore PMSA	51,833	Baltimore PMSA	21,970		
Charles County	13,834	Charles County	3,646		
Calvert County	8,243	Calvert County	641		
Other Maryland Jurisdictions	2,973	Other Maryland Jurisdictions	668		
Other		Other			
Pennsylvania	677	Pennsylvania	358		
West Virginia	407	West Virginia	8		
Elsewhere	1,763	Elsewhere	2,151		
<b>Total Jobs</b>	<b>295,286</b>	<b>Total Resident Workers</b>	<b>397,403</b>		
Live and Work in Prince George's County	155,671	Live and Work in Prince George's County	155,671		
Work in Prince George's County and Live Elsewhere	139,615	Live in Prince George's County and Work Elsewhere	241,732		
<b>Total Jobs</b>	<b>295,286</b>	<b>Total Resident Workers</b>	<b>397,403</b>		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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