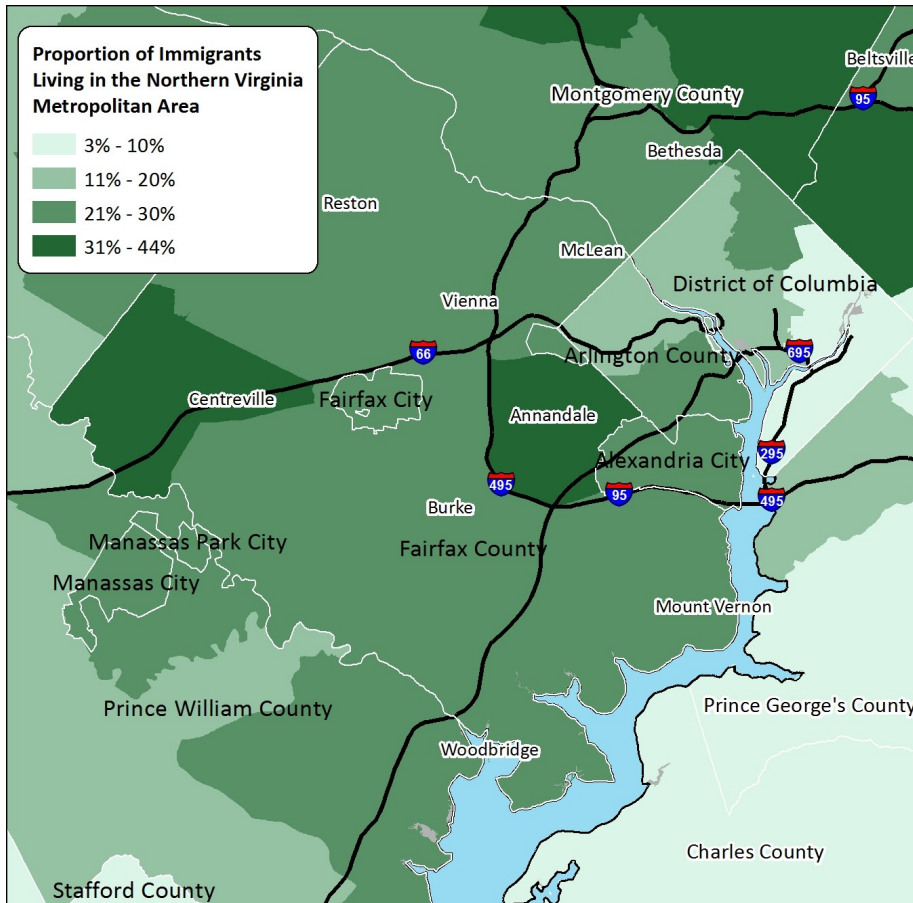


Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area

Figure 1. Immigrants Living in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area as a Percentage of the Population



2015 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **41,757,000:** Approximate number of immigrants* living in the U.S. (13% of the population)
- **970,000:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Virginia (12% of the state's population)
- **672,000:** Approximate number of immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metropolitan Area (23% of the population)
- **16th:** Rank of the state of Virginia among the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of immigrant population

Proportion of Immigrants Living in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area

Figure 1 shows where immigrants are living within the Northern Virginia metro area as a percentage of the population. The cities of Centreville, Reston, McLean, and Vienna, and the eastern portion of Fairfax County near Annandale, reported the highest shares of immigrants. Prince William and Arlington Counties as well as areas south of the metro area near Stafford County reported lower percentages of foreign born individuals.

Country of Birth

Foreign-born individuals living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. come from a variety of countries (Figure 2). Approximately one-quarter of foreign-born individuals living in the Northern Virginia metro area and Virginia come from El Salvador, India, or Korea. This is significantly higher compared immigrants living in the U.S. (11 percent). Mexico, which is the top country of origin nationally, does not appear in the top five countries of origin in the Northern Virginia metro area.

Figure 2. Top Five Birthplaces among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area		Virginia		United States	
El Salvador	12%	El Salvador	10%	Mexico	28%
India	9%	India	8%	India	5%
Korea	6%	Mexico	6%	Philippines	5%
Vietnam	5%	Korea	6%	China	4%
Philippines	4%	Philippines	5%	Vietnam	3%
All Other Countries (n=152)	64%	All Other Countries (n=155)	65%	All Other Countries (n=155)	55%
Estimated Immigrant Population	672,056	Estimated Immigrant Population	970,031	Estimated Immigrant Population	41,757,110

All analysis in this fact sheet is based on source data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2011-2015 distributed through IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org.

*Foreign born refers to individuals who are not a U.S. citizen at birth or who were born outside the U.S., Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories and whose parents are not U.S. citizens. The foreign born may include naturalized U.S. citizens, Legal Permanent Residents, temporary residents, refugees and asylees, and others. Additionally, native born includes those who are U.S. citizens at birth, those born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or other U.S. territories, and those born abroad to a parent who is a U.S. citizen. Please note that the terms "foreign born" and "immigrant" are used interchangeably throughout this fact sheet.

Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area

Languages Spoken at Home

Figure 3 shows the top five languages spoken at home among immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. Immigrants in these three geographic areas speak a range of languages at home. However, a majority speak Spanish or English. Immigrants in the U.S. were more likely to speak Spanish and Chinese at home compared to immigrants in the Northern Virginia metro area and Virginia. Compared to immigrants nationwide, there are greater percentages of immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area who speak Korean, Vietnamese, and Arabic at home.

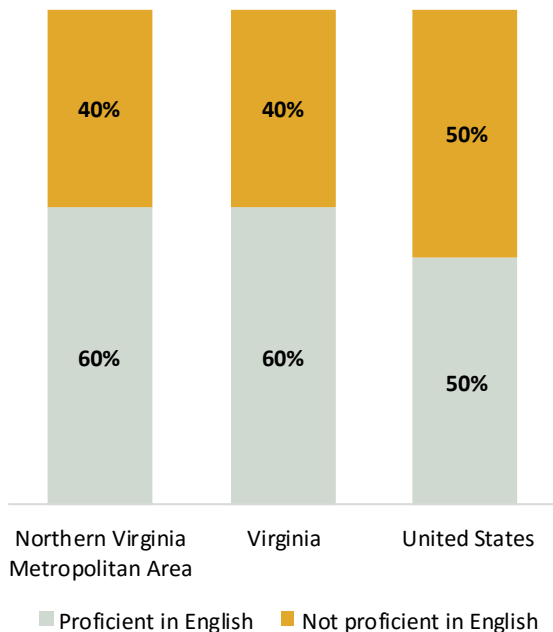
Figure 3. Top Five Languages Spoken at Home among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area		Virginia		United States	
Spanish	32%	Spanish	31%	Spanish	44%
English	14%	English	17%	English	16%
Korean	6%	Korean	5%	Chinese	4%
Vietnamese	5%	Filipino, Tagalog	4%	Filipino, Tagalog	4%
Arabic	4%	Vietnamese	4%	Vietnamese	3%
All Other Languages (n=89)	39%	All Other Languages (n=91)	39%	All Other Languages (n=105)	29%
Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 5+)	667,605	Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 5+)	962,969	Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 5+)	41,503,369

English Proficiency

Overall, immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area and the state of Virginia reported higher rates of English proficiency (speaks only English or speaks English very well) compared to immigrants nationwide (Figure 4).

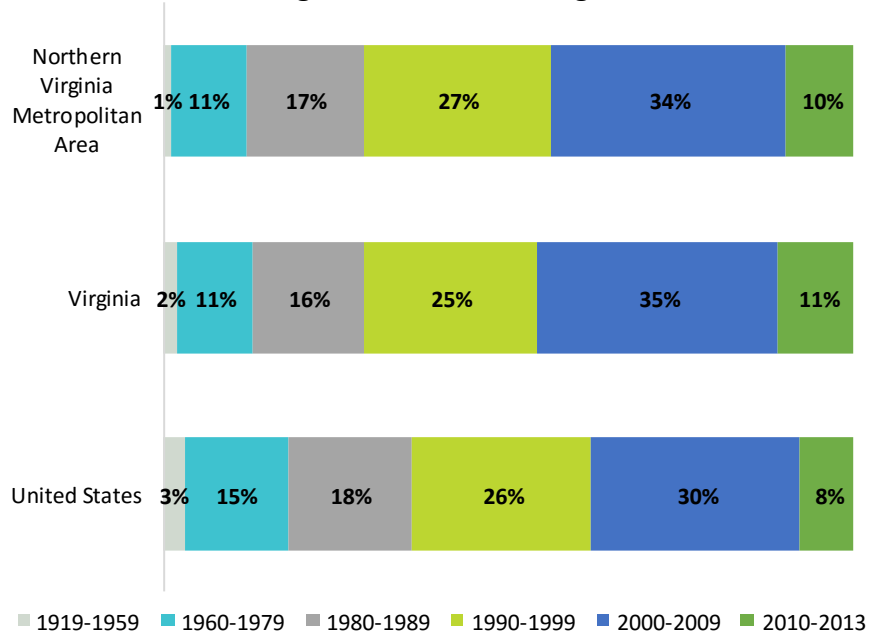
Figure 4. English Proficiency Rates among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.



Year of Immigration

Figure 5 shows the year of immigration among foreign born individuals living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and across the U.S. More than half of the foreign born in the United States, Virginia, and the Northern Virginia metro area arrived at least 15 years ago. Sixty-two percent of immigrants living in the U.S. arrived before the year 2000, compared to 56 percent of immigrants living in the northern Virginia metro area and 54 percent of immigrants in the state of Virginia.

Figure 5. Year of Immigration to the U.S. among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.



Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area

Educational Attainment

Figure 6 shows the educational attainment among immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. Overall, foreign born individuals living in the Northern Virginia metro area and Virginia reported higher rates of educational attainment than immigrants nationally. Compared to immigrants living in the U.S., immigrants in the Northern Virginia metro area and Virginia were significantly more likely to have at least some college or a bachelor's degree as well as a graduate, professional, or doctoral degree.

Employment

Figure 7 shows the employment status among foreign born individuals living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. Immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area reported higher rates of labor force participation and employment compared to native-born U.S. citizens living in the Northern Virginia metro area, and immigrants and native-born U.S. citizens living in Virginia and the United States.

Occupation

Figure 8 highlights the top five occupational groups among employed immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. It is important to note that employment patterns among foreign born individuals in the Northern Virginia metro area and the state of Virginia are similar to employment patterns of immigrants within the U.S. When looking at the top five occupational groups, a majority of occupational groups held by foreign born individuals in the U.S. tend to be more labor intensive and involve production occupations while immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area and the state of Virginia were employed in office and management occupations. In Virginia, 19 percent of immigrants were employed in management, business, science, arts and computer and mathematical occupations, while these categories do not fall into the top five nationally.

Figure 6. Educational Attainment among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

	Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area	Virginia	United States
No High School Diploma	19%	19%	30%
High School Diploma	19%	20%	22%
Some College or Associate's Degree	19%	20%	19%
Bachelor's Degree	23%	22%	17%
Graduate, Professional, or Doctoral Degree	20%	19%	12%
Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 25+)	578,941	822,045	36,030,146

Figure 7. Employment Status among Immigrants and Native-Born U.S. Citizens in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

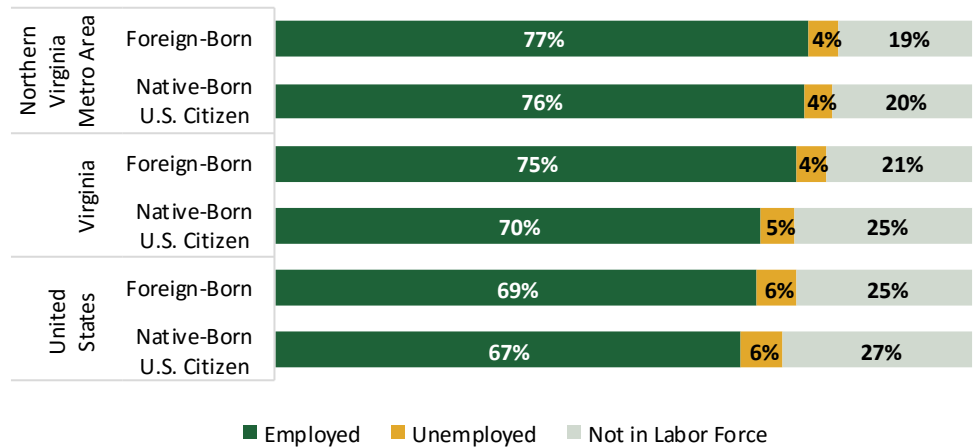


Figure 8. Top Five Occupational Groups among Employed Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

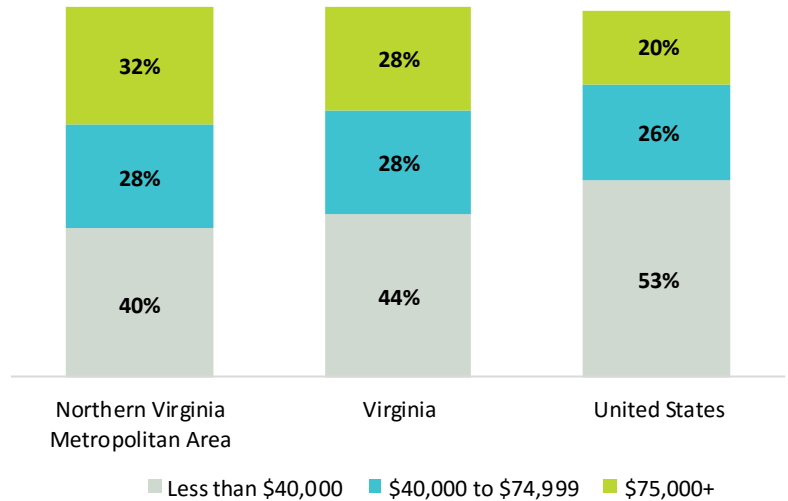
Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area		Virginia		United States	
Management, Business, Science, Arts	10%	Management, Business, Science, Arts	10%	Office and Administrative Support	9%
Sales	10%	Sales	9%	Sales	8%
Office and Administrative Support	9%	Construction	9%	Building/Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	8%
Construction	9%	Office and Administrative Support	9%	Production	8%
Computer and Mathematical	9%	Food Preparation/Serving	8%	Food Preparation/Serving	8%
All Other Occupational Groups (n=20)	53%	All Other Occupational Groups (n=20)	55%	All Other Occupational Groups (n=20)	59%
Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 16+)	451,353	Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 16+)	630,639	Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 16+)	24,537,954

Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area

Income

Figure 9 highlights the personal earned income among full-time employed immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. Overall, immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area are significantly more likely to earn \$40,000 or more compared to immigrants living in Virginia and across the U.S. Immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metropolitan area were more likely to earn \$75,000 or more and reported higher median personal incomes (\$48,777) compared to immigrants living in the state of Virginia (\$45,000) and immigrants living in the U.S. (\$36,580).

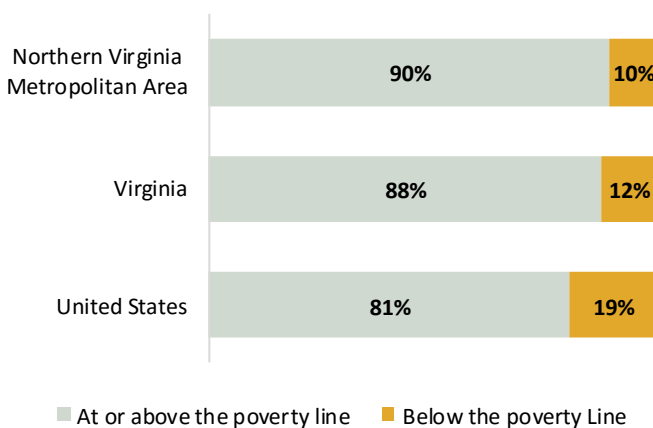
Figure 9. Personal Income among Full-Time Employed Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.



Poverty

Approximately 90 percent of immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area live at or above the poverty line (Figure 10). This is slightly higher compared to immigrants living in Virginia (88 percent) and immigrants living in the U.S. (81 percent).

Figure 10. Poverty Status among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.



Health Insurance

Figure 11 highlights health insurance coverage rates among immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area, Virginia, and the U.S. Overall, immigrants living in the Northern Virginia metro area and in Virginia reported slightly higher rates of health insurance coverage compared to immigrants living in the U.S.

Figure 11. Health Insurance Coverage Rates among Immigrants in the Northern Virginia Metro Area, Virginia, and the U.S.

	Northern Virginia Metro Area	Virginia	United States
No health insurance coverage	27%	27%	29%
Health insurance coverage	73%	73%	71%
Estimated Immigrant Population	672,056	970,031	41,757,110

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR IMMIGRATION RESEARCH

The IIR works to refocus the immigration conversation among academics, policy-makers and the public, including the business community and media, by producing and disseminating unbiased and objective, interdisciplinary academic research related to immigrants and immigration to the United States. The Institute for Immigration Research is a joint venture between George Mason University and the Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. (ILC) of Massachusetts. To learn more about the IIR call (703) 993-5833, email iir@gmu.edu, or visit us online at iir.gmu.edu.

IMMIGRATION DATA ON DEMAND (iDod)

iDod
Immigration
Data on Demand

The iDod service is offered free of charge to help individuals and institutions examine the immigrant populations of their particular geography. Recipients of this data will see how immigrants provide vital contributions to the economy and society of the U.S. Ultimately, the goal of the iDod project is to create collaborations and connect people with data of interest on immigrant populations from their particular geographic region or economic sector.