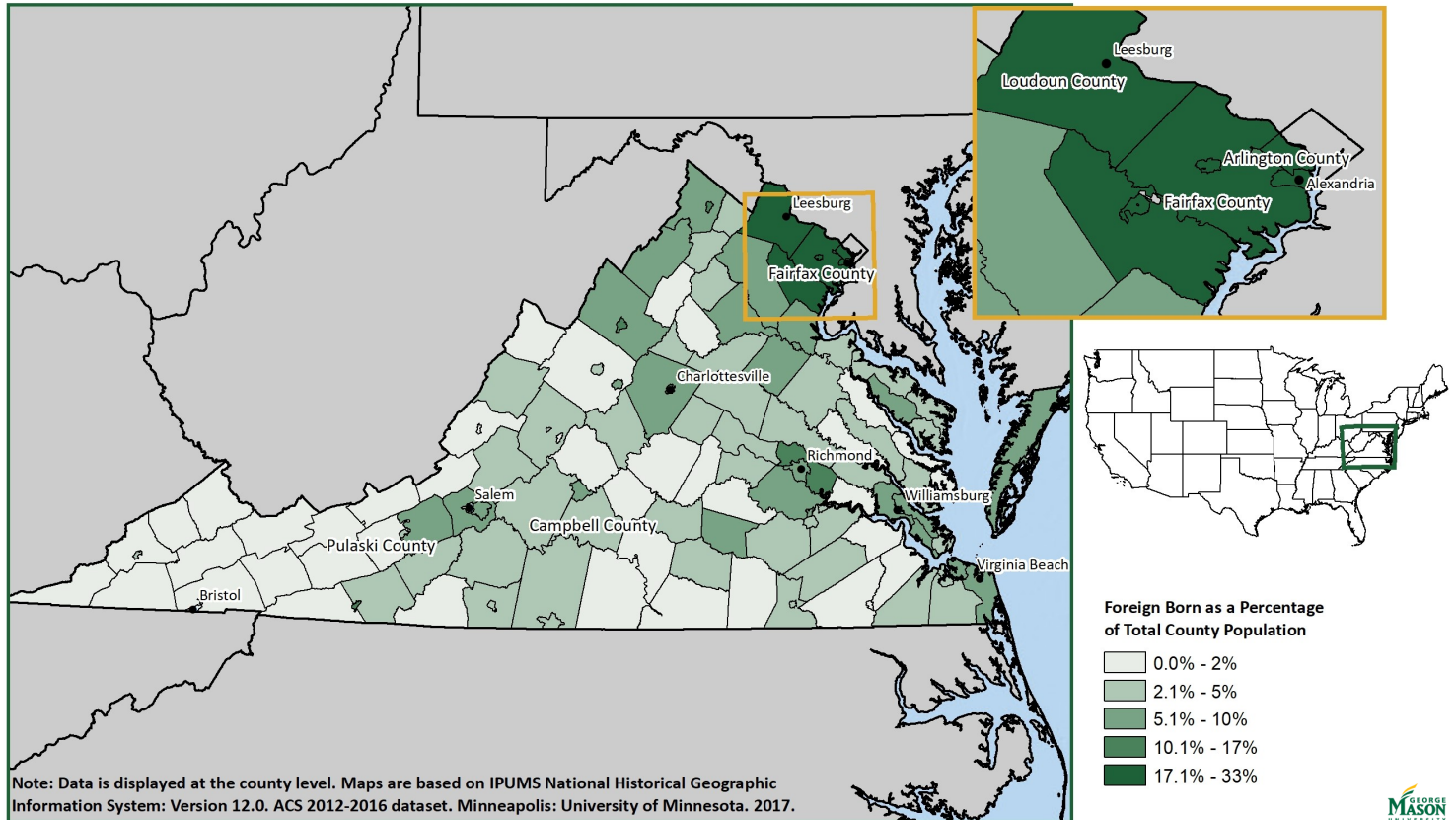


Immigrants in the City of Alexandria, Virginia

A Comparison of Immigrants who Arrived Before and After the Year 2000

Figure 1. Immigrants in Virginia



2016 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- **42,228,200:** Approximate number of immigrants* living in the U.S. (13% of the population)
- **988,600:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Virginia (12% of the state's population)
- **42,440:** Approximate number of immigrants living in Alexandria, VA (28% of the city's population)
- **16th:** Rank of the state of Virginia among the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of immigrants as a percentage of the state's population

Distribution of Immigrants in the State of Virginia

Figure 1 shows where immigrants live in the state of Virginia. Alexandria City, Loudoun County, and Arlington/ Alexandria County reported the highest shares of immigrants. The city of Alexandria has a foreign-born population of 42,441, which represents 28 percent of the city's population. Loudoun County has a foreign-born population of 84,423, or 23 percent of the county's population. Arlington/ Alexandria County has an immigrant population of 52,323, which represents 23 percent of the county's population. The southwestern and southern regions of the state reported lower percentages of foreign-born individuals.

All analysis in this fact sheet is based on source data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2012-2016 distributed through IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org.

*Please note that the terms "immigrant" and "foreign born" are used interchangeably throughout this fact sheet. 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.

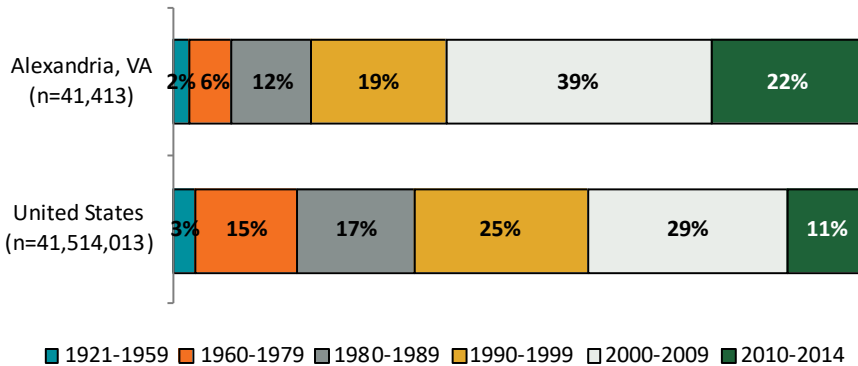
Immigrants in the City of Alexandria, Virginia

A Comparison of Immigrants who Arrived Before and After the Year 2000

Year of Immigration

Immigrants living in Alexandria, VA are more likely to report arriving in the U.S. more recently compared to immigrants in the U.S. As shown in Figure 2, more than half of immigrants living in Alexandria, VA migrated to the U.S. in the year 2000 or later. Additionally, the median year of immigration to the U.S. for foreign-born individuals living in Alexandria, VA is 2002, which is later compared to all immigrants in the U.S. (1996).

Figure 2. Year of Immigration Among Immigrants, 1919 - 2014



IMMIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN

- **10,390:** Approximate number of immigrants from Afghanistan living in Virginia (1% of immigrant population in Virginia)
- **2nd:** The state of Virginia is home to the second largest share of immigrants from Afghanistan living in the U.S. (14% of Afghan population in US).
- **720:** Approximate number of immigrants from Afghanistan living in Alexandria, VA (2% of the city's immigrant population)
- **Median Year of Immigration:** 2013
- **English Proficiency:** Nearly 1 in 2 immigrants from Afghanistan in Alexandria, VA speaks only English or speaks English very well
- **Education:** More than 1 in 3 immigrants (Ages 25+) from Afghanistan living in Alexandria, VA have a Bachelor's degree or higher
- **Rate of Employment:** 96 percent of immigrants from Afghanistan in Alexandria, VA are employed

Race and Ethnicity

Most of the immigrants living in Alexandria, VA identified as either Black (non-Hispanic), White (Hispanic), White (non-Hispanic), or Asian (non-Hispanic) (Figure 3). There are significantly higher shares of immigrants living in Alexandria, VA who identify as Black (non-Hispanic) compared to immigrants nationwide. Immigrants living in Alexandria, VA who arrived in the United States in the year 2000 or later are more likely to identify as Black (non-Hispanic) when compared to immigrants who arrived prior to the year 2000.

Figure 3. Race and Ethnicity Among Immigrants

	Alexandria, VA			United States		
	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later
Black (non-Hispanic)	30%	18%	37%	8%	7%	9%
White (Hispanic)	22%	26%	19%	29%	30%	28%
White (non-Hispanic)	17%	19%	15%	18%	20%	16%
Asian (non-Hispanic)	16%	23%	13%	26%	24%	29%
Other Race (Hispanic)	9%	9%	10%	16%	16%	15%
Two or more races (Hispanic)	3%	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Two or more races (non-Hispanic)	3%	2%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Other Race (non-Hispanic)	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%	1%
Estimated Immigrant Population	42,441	16,245	26,196	42,228,197	24,821,619	17,406,578

Immigrants in the City of Alexandria, Virginia

A Comparison of Immigrants who Arrived Before and After the Year 2000

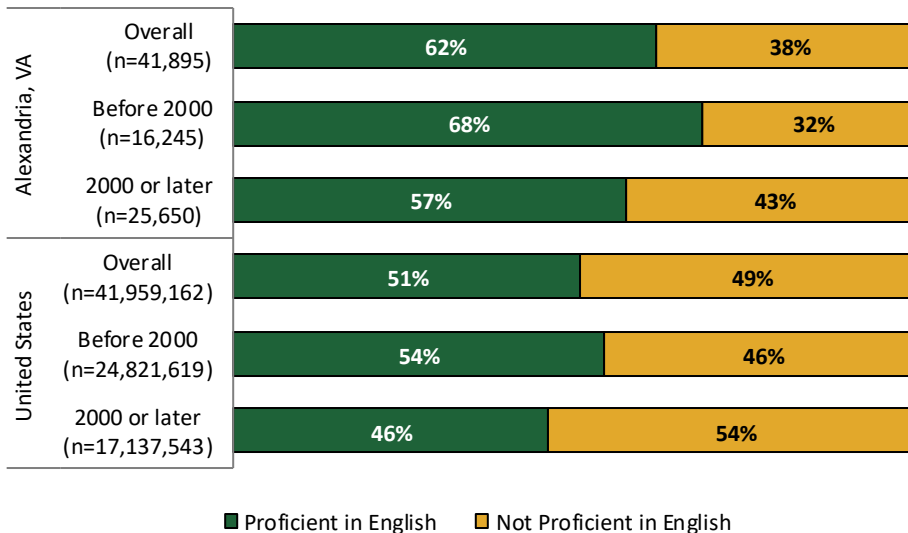
Sex

Figure 4 shows that immigrants living in Alexandria, VA who arrived in the year 2000 or later are slightly more likely to be female compared to immigrants who arrived prior to the year 2000.

 **Figure 4. Sex of Immigrants**

	Alexandria, VA			United States		
	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later
Male	50%	52%	49%	49%	48%	49%
Female	50%	48%	51%	51%	52%	51%
Estimated Immigrant Population	42,441	16,245	26,196	42,228,197	24,821,619	17,406,578

 **Figure 5. English Proficiency Among Immigrants**
Foreign-Born Individuals, Age 5+



English Proficiency

Overall, immigrants living in Alexandria, VA report higher rates of English Proficiency (speaks only English or speaks English very well) compared to immigrants nationwide (Figure 5). Immigrants who arrived to the United States prior to the year 2000, both living in Alexandria, VA and in the United States, are more likely to be proficient in English compared to immigrants who arrived in the year 2000 or later.

Educational Attainment

Figure 6 shows that immigrants living in Alexandria, VA reported higher educational attainment compared to immigrants nationwide. Immigrants in Alexandria, VA who arrived to the U.S. in the year 2000 or later are more likely to have obtained a Bachelor's degree compared to immigrants in Alexandria, VA who arrived before the year 2000; immigrants in Alexandria, VA who arrived in the U.S. before the year 2000 are more likely to have obtained a graduate, professional, or doctoral degree compared to immigrants in Alexandria, VA who arrived in the year 2000 or later.

 **Figure 6. Educational Attainment Among Immigrants**
Foreign-Born Individuals, Age 25+

	Alexandria, VA			United States		
	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later
No High School Diploma	19%	19%	19%	30%	31%	28%
High School Diploma	21%	20%	22%	22%	22%	22%
Some College or Associate's Degree	20%	20%	20%	19%	20%	16%
Bachelor's Degree	21%	19%	22%	17%	16%	19%
Graduate, Professional, or Doctoral Degree	19%	22%	17%	12%	11%	15%
Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 25+)	35,670	15,885	19,785	36,604,362	23,879,861	12,724,501

Immigrants in the City of Alexandria, Virginia

A Comparison of Immigrants who Arrived Before and After the Year 2000

Employment

Immigrants living in Alexandria, VA reported higher rates of employment compared to immigrants living across the nation (Figure 7). Immigrants who arrived to the United States prior to the year 2000, both living in Alexandria, VA and in the United States, are more likely to be employed compared to immigrants who arrived in the year 2000 or later.

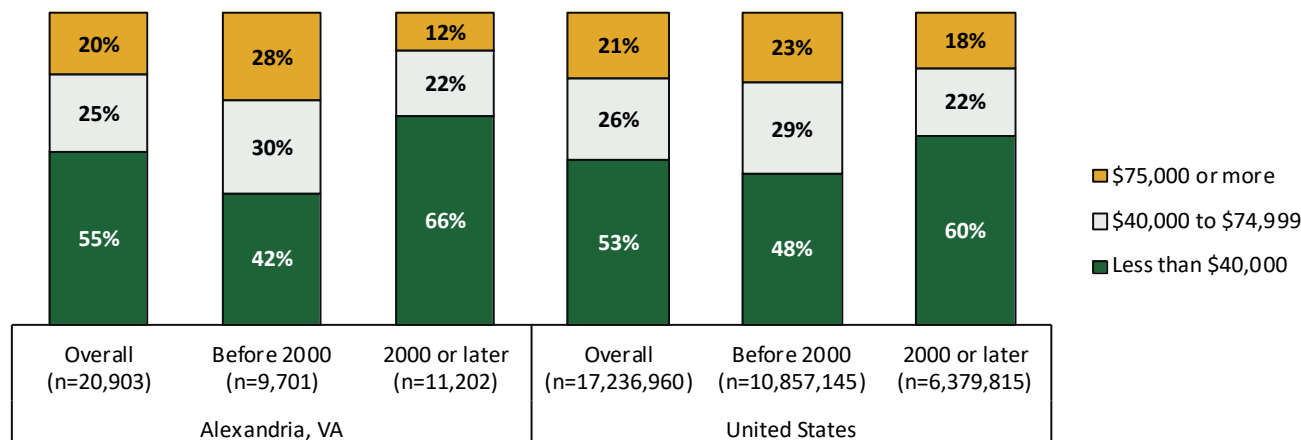
Figure 7. Employment Among Immigrants
Foreign-Born Individuals in the Labor Force, Age 16—65

	Alexandria, VA			United States		
	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later	Overall	Before 2000	2000 or later
Employed	95%	96%	94%	93%	94%	93%
Unemployed	5%	4%	6%	7%	6%	7%
Estimated Immigrant Population (Ages 16+)	30,386	12,705	17,681	25,893,567	15,485,560	10,408,007

Personal Income

Full-time employed immigrants who are ages 16 to 65 years old living in Alexandria, VA are slightly less likely to earn \$40,000 or more compared to foreign-born individuals living across the United States. Immigrants living in Alexandria, VA who arrived in the United States before the year 2000 are significantly more likely to earn \$40,000 or more compared to foreign-born individuals who arrived to the United States in the year 2000 or later. Immigrants living in Alexandria, VA reported lower median personal incomes (\$35,000) compared to immigrants living across the United States (\$37,000).

Figure 8. Personal Income Among Immigrants
Foreign-Born Individuals in the Labor Force and Employed Full-Time, Age 16—65



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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 Institute for Immigration Research call (703) 993-5833, email iir@gmu.edu, or visit us online at iir.gmu.edu.