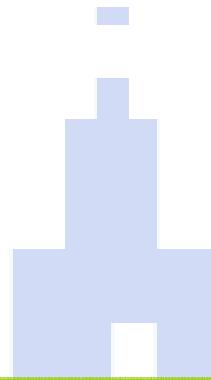




# Greater Washington Research

at BROOKINGS



**Alice M. Rivlin, Senior Fellow**  
**Audrey Singer, Senior Fellow**

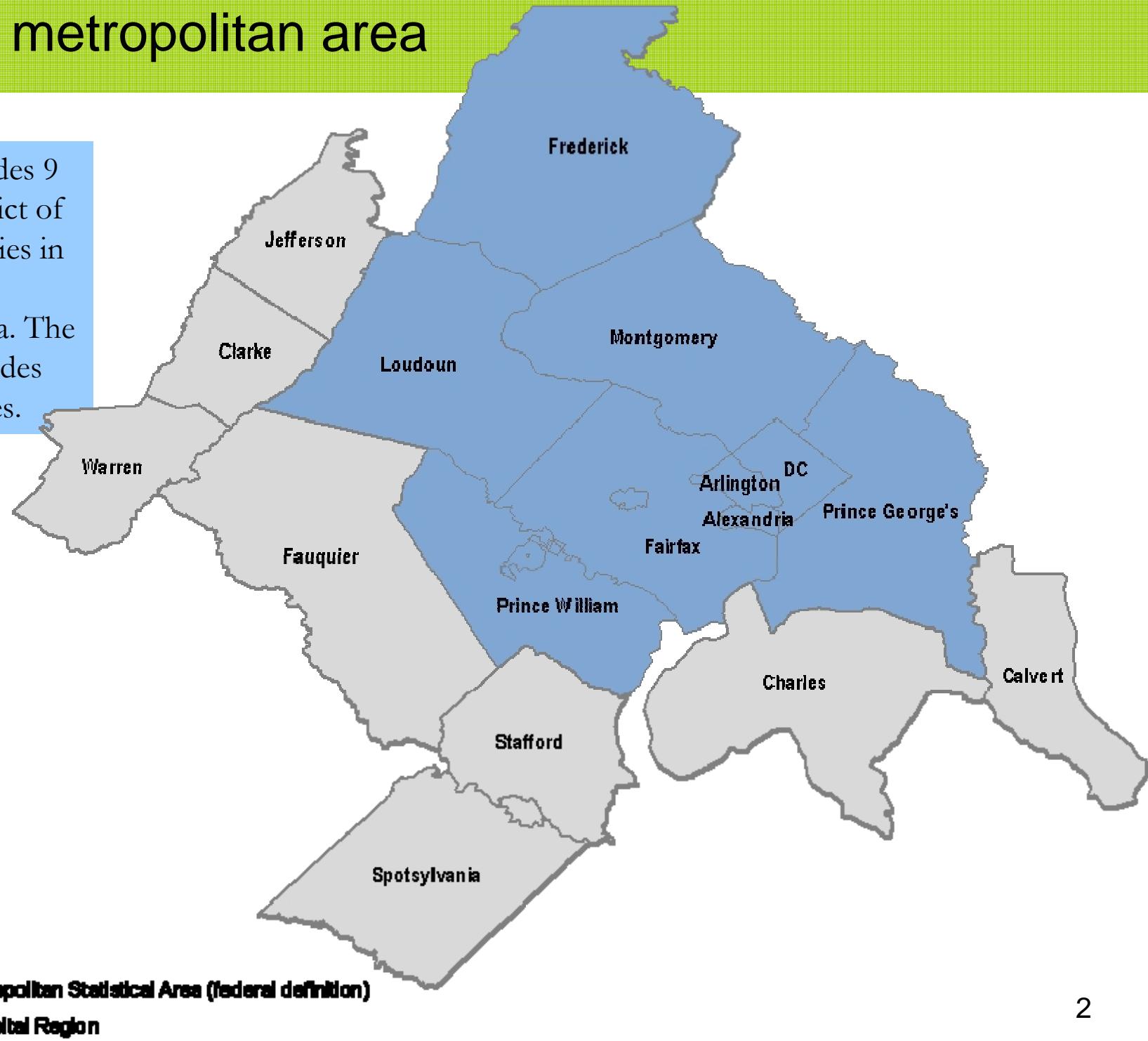
## **Demographic and Economic Trends in the National Capital Region and their Effects on Children, Youth and Families**

Prepared for Venture Philanthropy Partners  
November, 2008



# Washington metropolitan area

VPP's definition includes 9 jurisdictions: the District of Columbia, three counties in Maryland and five jurisdictions in Virginia. The federal definition includes an additional 8 counties.





# **Demographic and Economic Trends in the National Capital Region and their Effects on Children, Youth and Families**

I

The region is growing, decentralizing and becoming more diverse, with increasing minority and foreign-born populations

II

The region is generally prosperous, with a strong employment base, high education levels, and high wages

III

But prosperity and opportunities are not shared by all and many families are experiencing economic hardship

Total and youth populations are highest in the inner suburbs, although the most rapid growth is in the outer suburbs

Total and youth population by jurisdiction, 2000 and 2007

% increase in youth population, 2000-2007

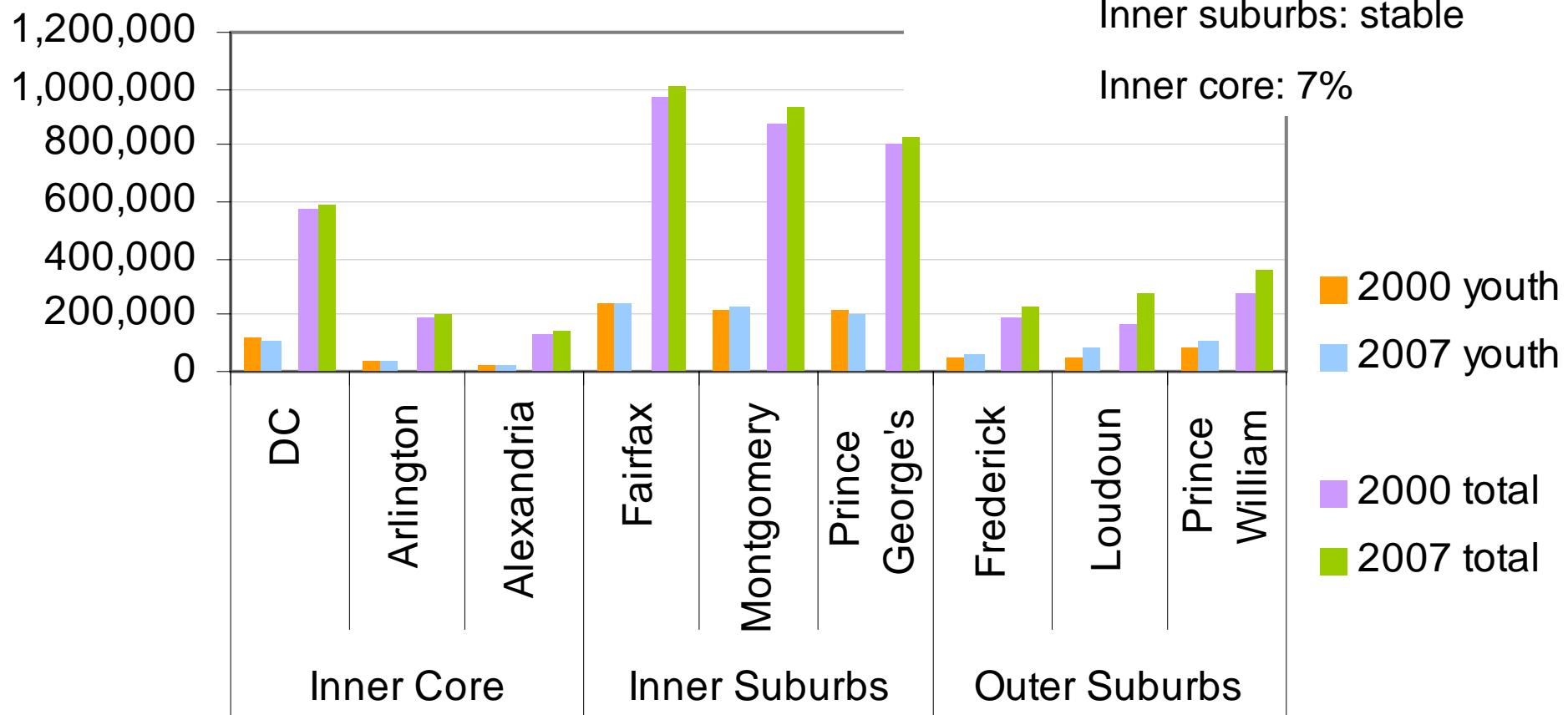
Loudoun: 68%

Prince William: 25%

Frederick: 9%

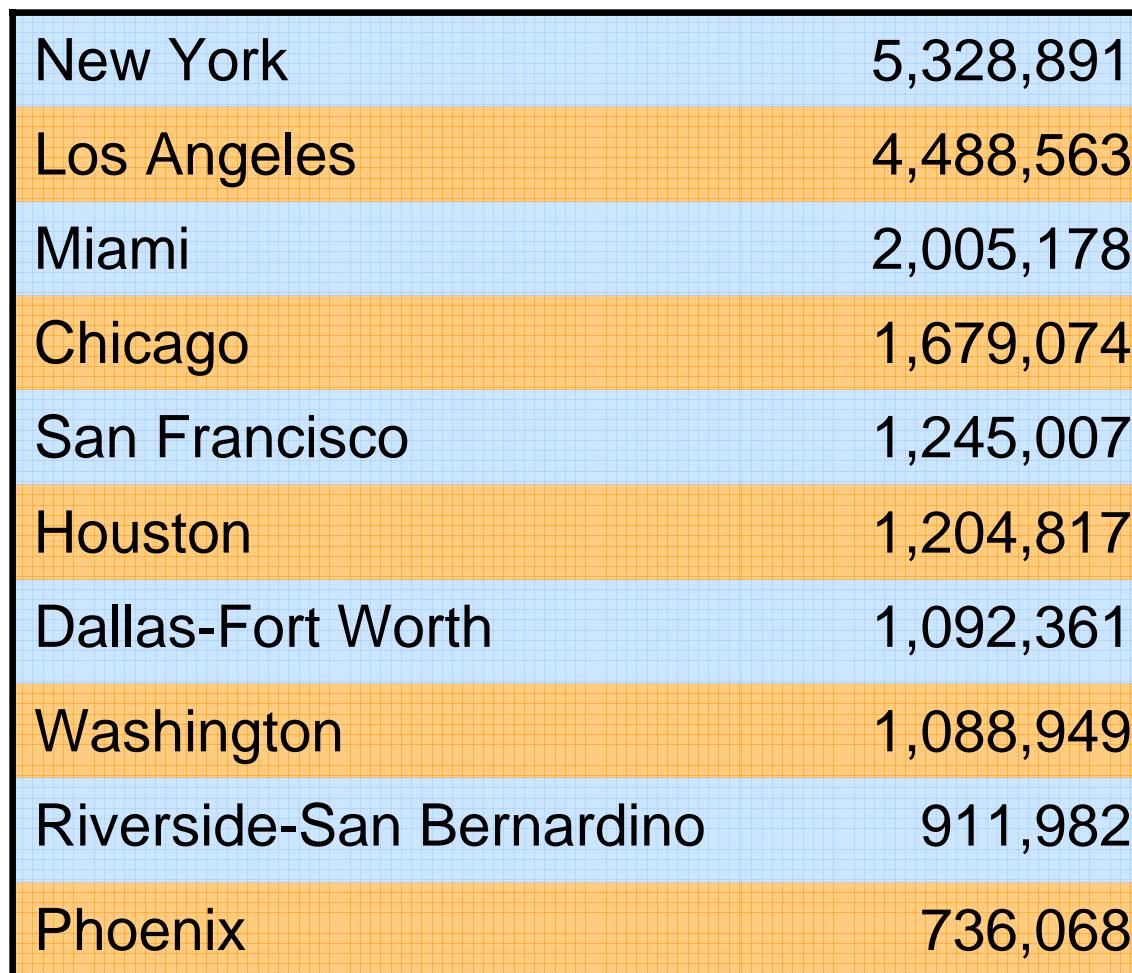
Inner suburbs: stable

Inner core: 7%



Metropolitan Washington ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation (with Dallas-Fort Worth) in immigrant population

### Number of Immigrants ranked by metropolitan area, 2007



The foreign-born population of the Washington region is characterized by:

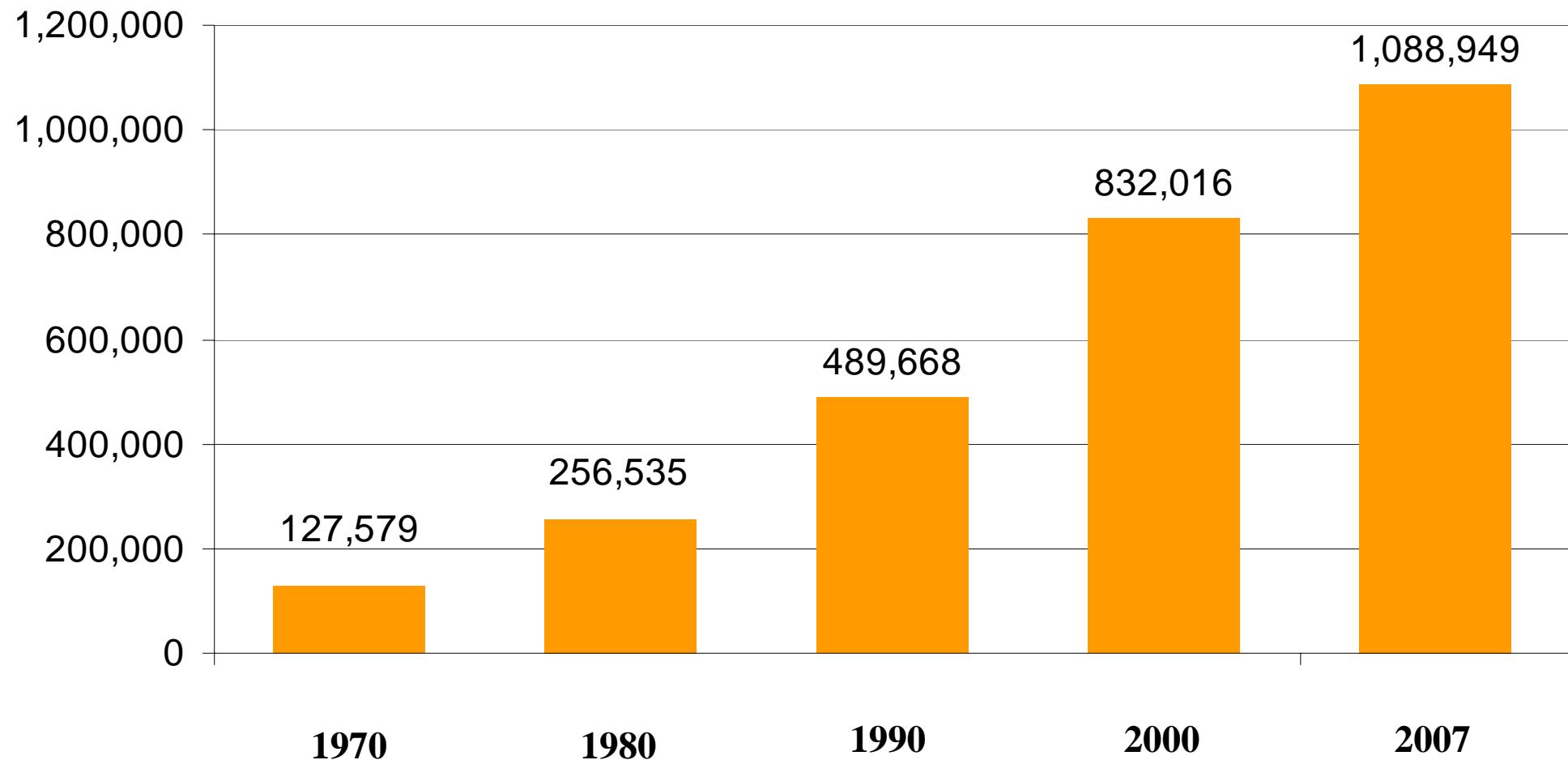
**Fast growth**

**Global origins**

**Suburban residence**

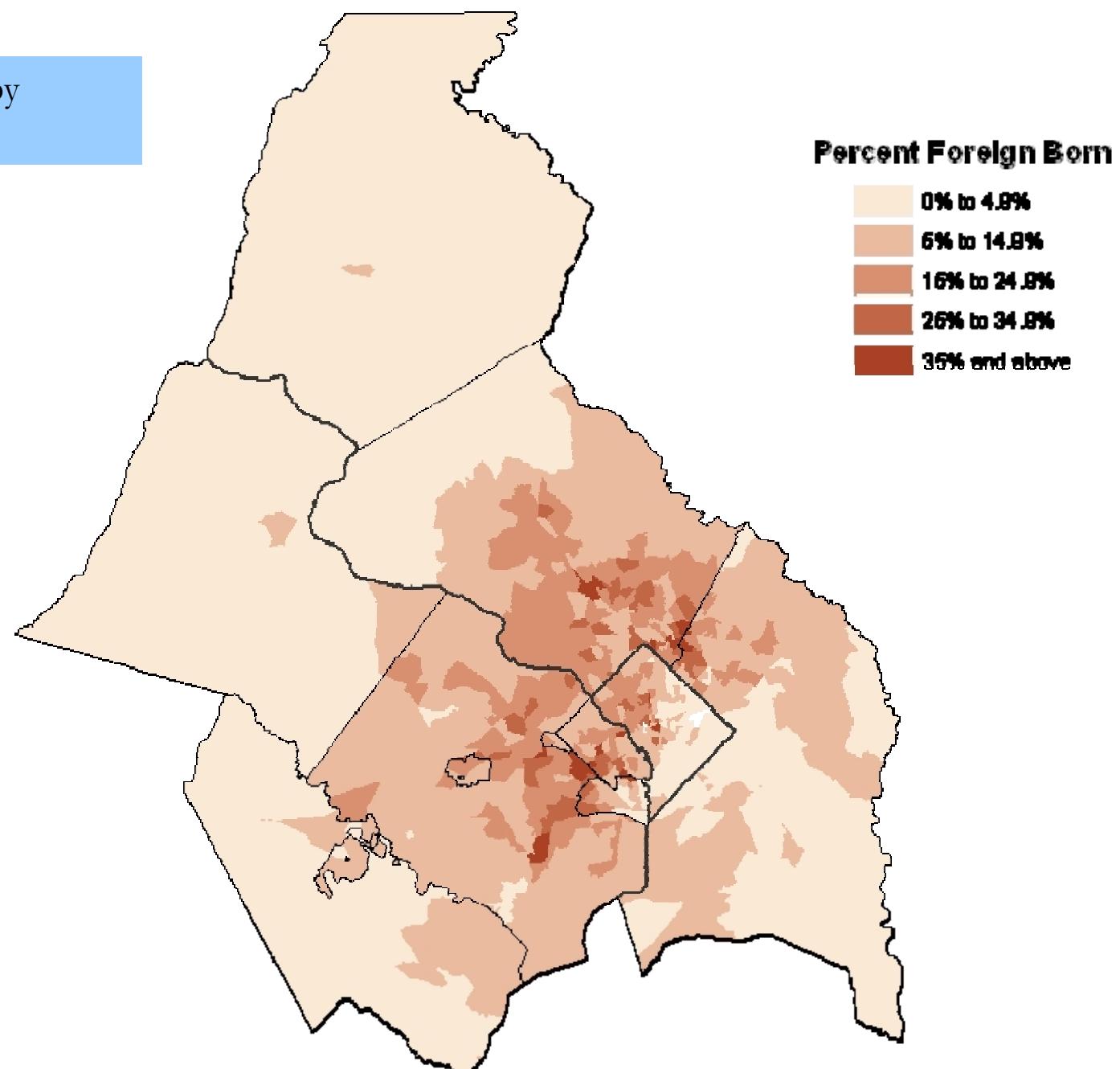
# Metropolitan Washington's foreign-born population grew by 70 percent in the 1990s, or nearly 350,000 immigrants

Foreign-born population by decade, 1970-2007



In 1990, immigrants resided close to the core of the region...

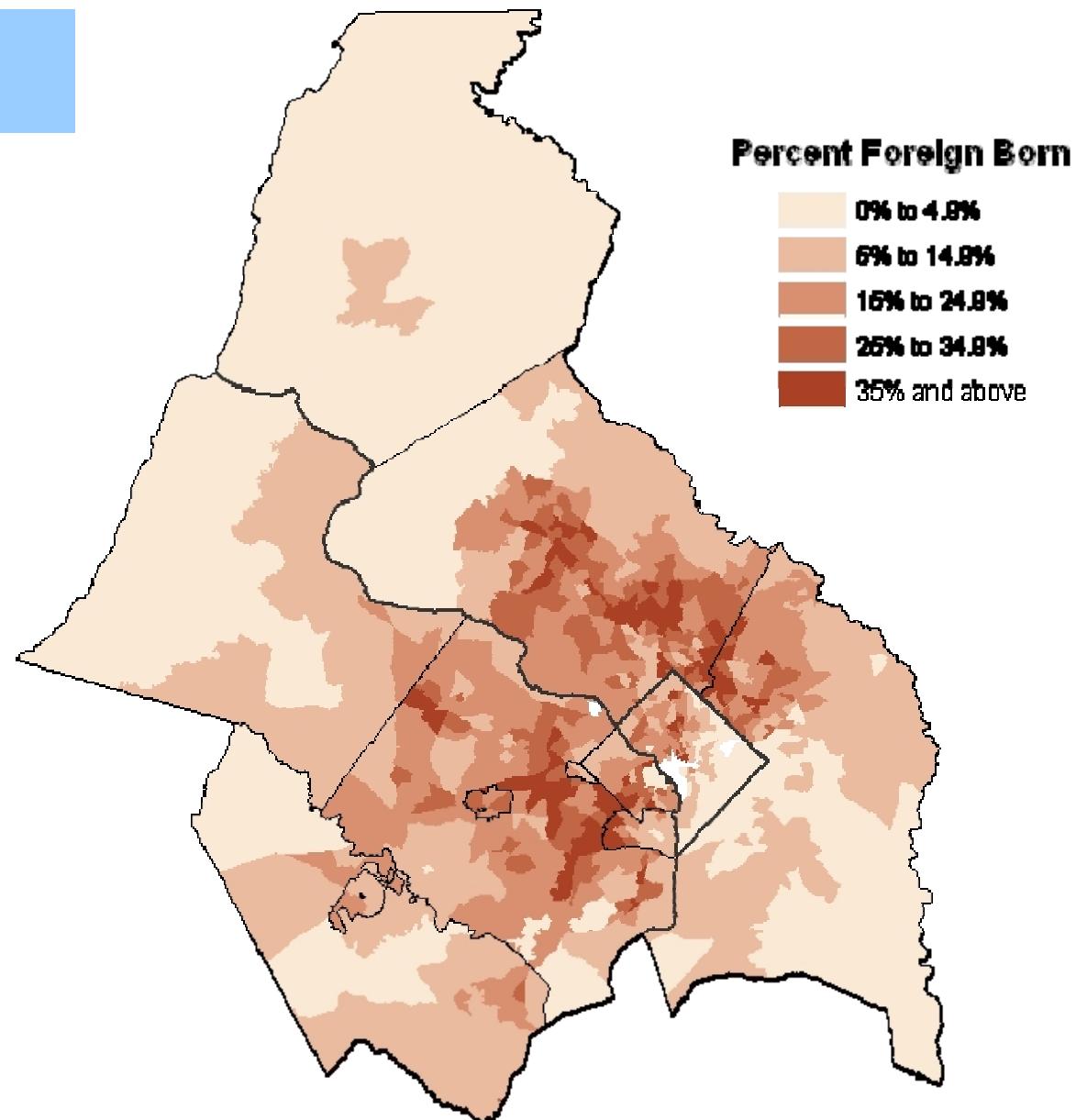
Percent foreign born by census tract, 1990



Source: U.S. Census

...by 2000, the core of the region became more densely settled, while the suburban areas increased their shares

Percent foreign born by census tract, 2000



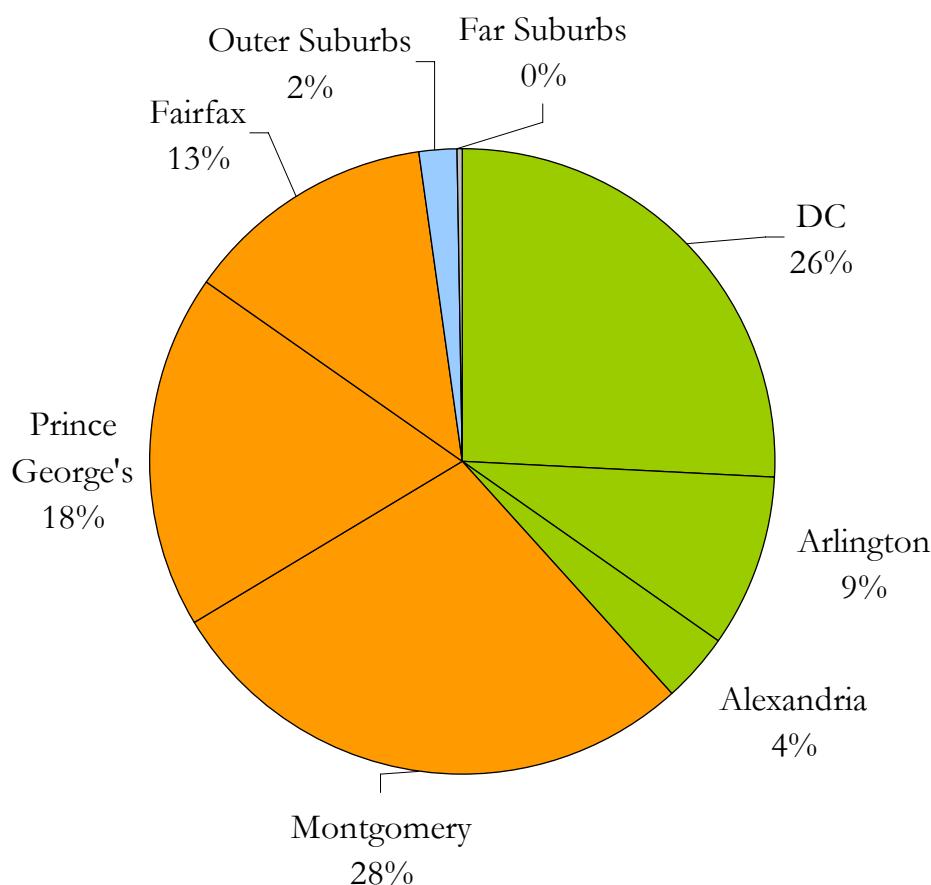
Source: U.S. Census

# Since 1970, immigrants have shifted to the outer suburbs

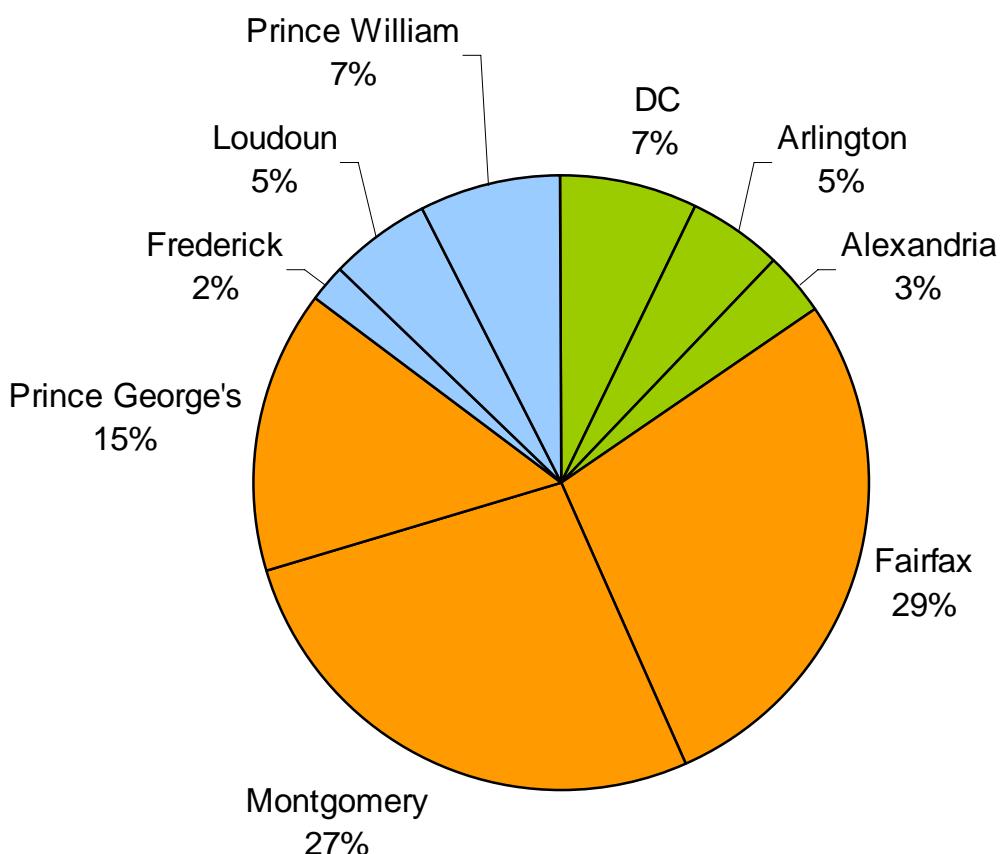
Foreign born distribution by jurisdiction

Inner core      Inner suburbs      Outer suburbs

1970



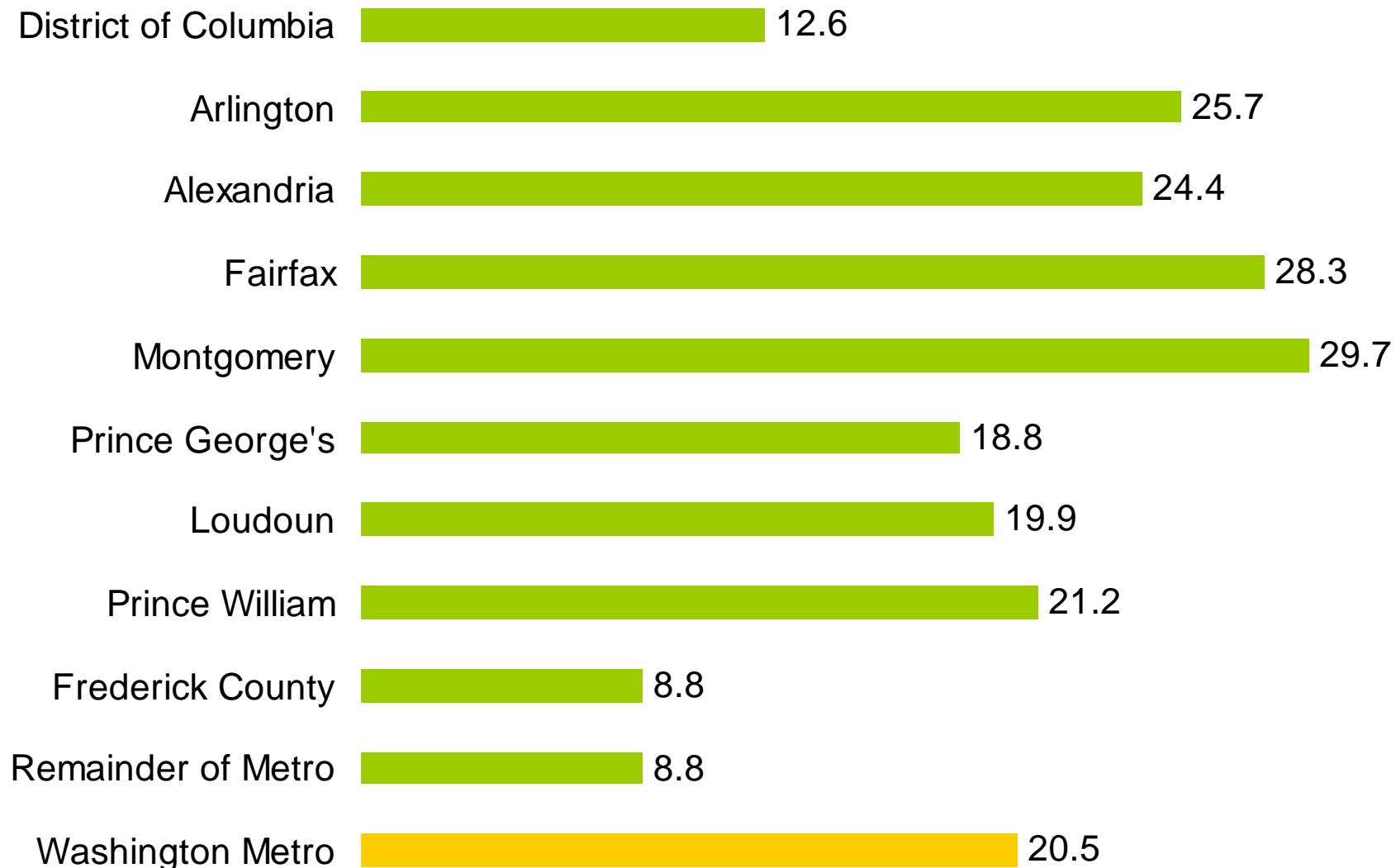
2007



Source: 1970 Census and 2007 ACS

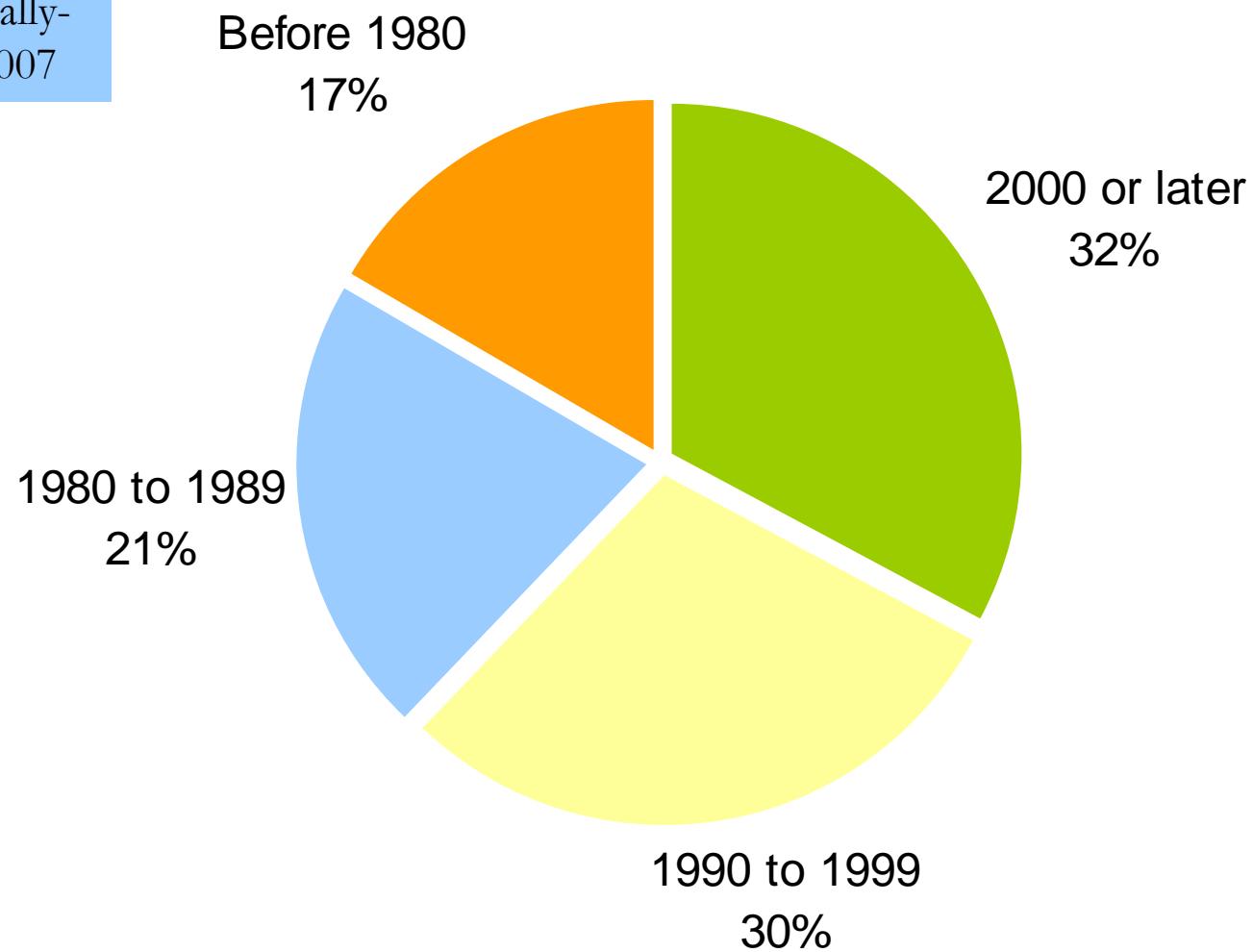
# Arlington, Fairfax, and Montgomery are all more than one-quarter foreign-born

Percent foreign-born by jurisdiction



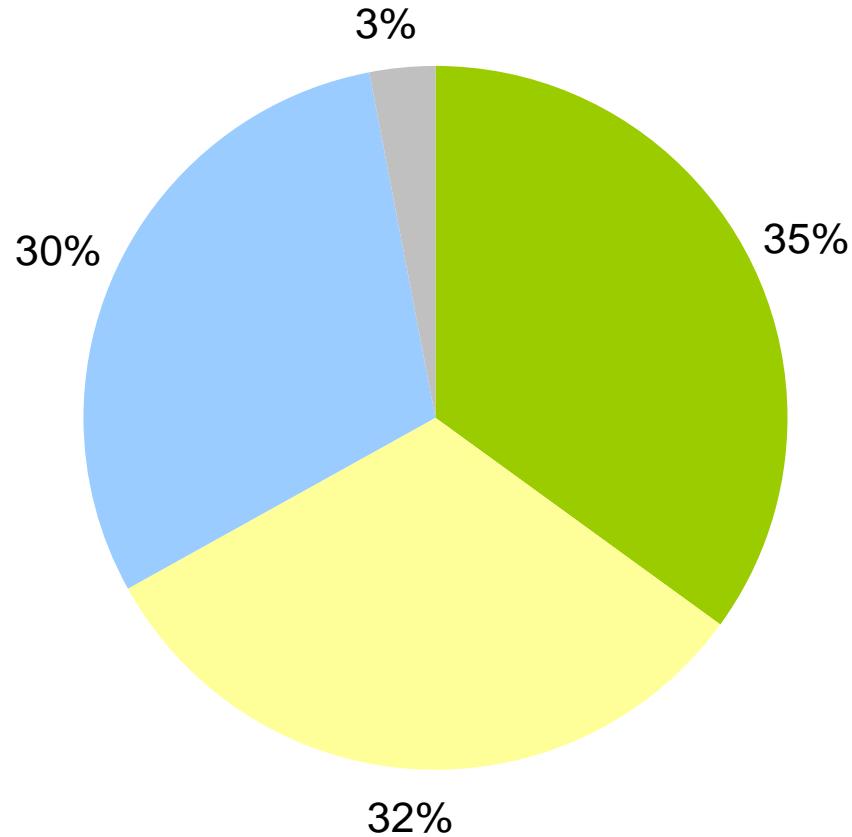
# One third of immigrants in the region arrived between 2000 and 2007

Period of entry for the foreign-born population, federally-defined region, 2007



# Estimated legal status of the foreign-born population in Washington and the U.S.

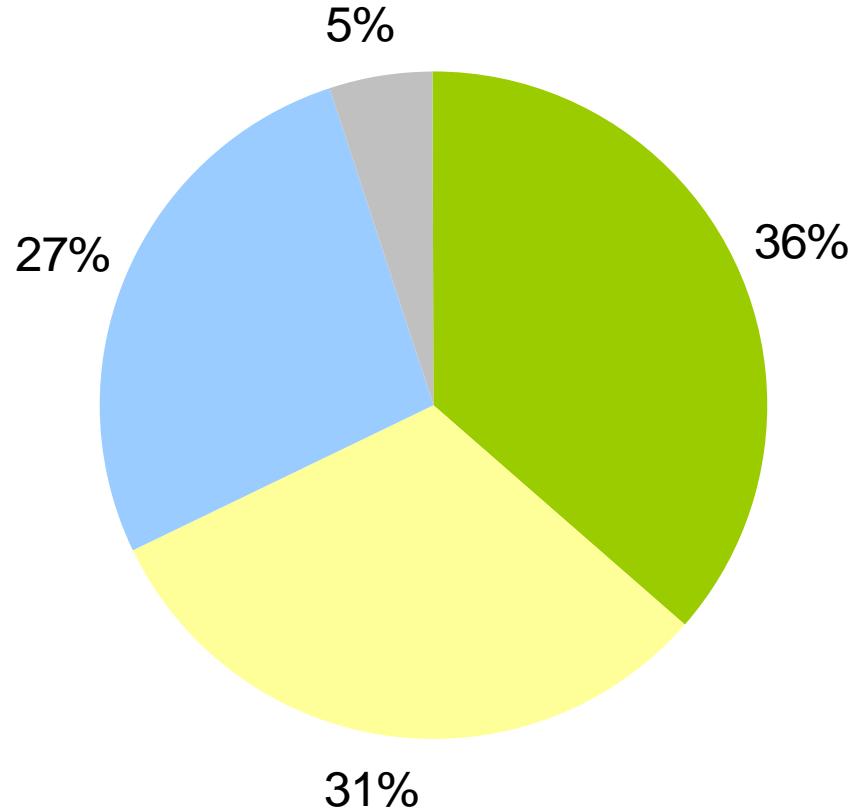
**United States**



Source: Passel, 2006

Source: Passel, 2006

**Washington metro**

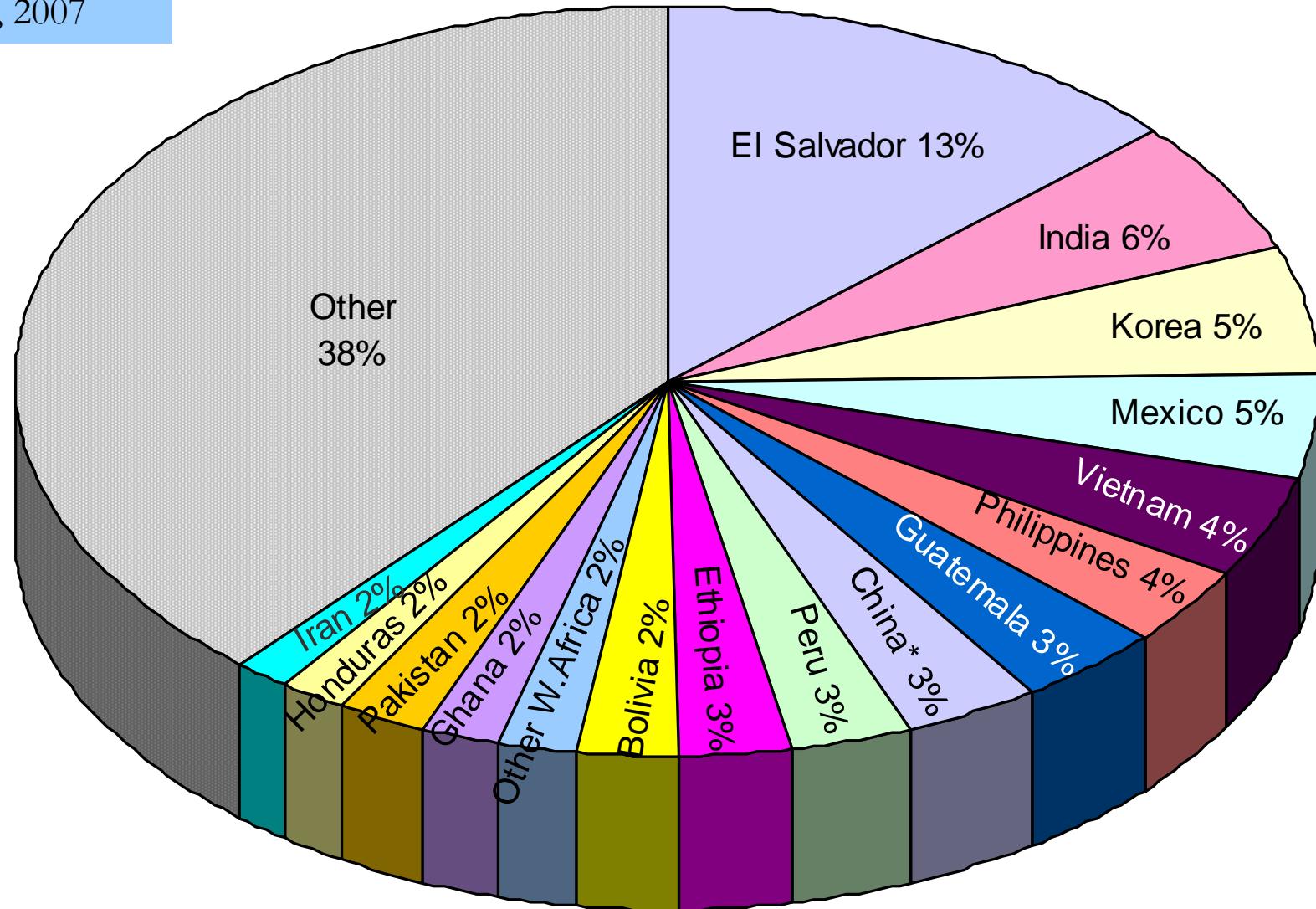


13

Source: Capps et al., 2006

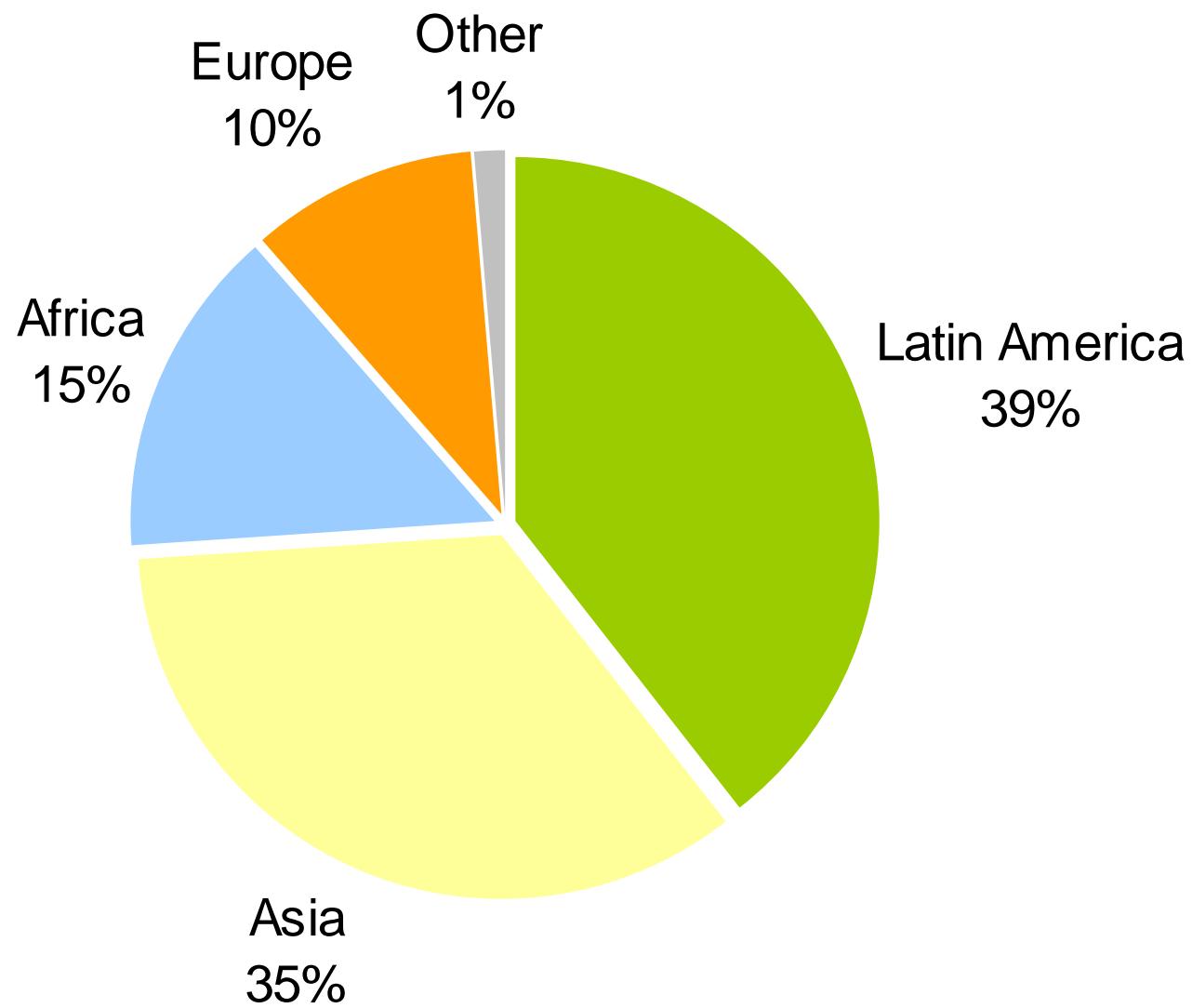
# The immigrant population in the Washington region is diverse and no one nationality has a majority

Country of birth for foreign born, federally-defined region, 2007



# Latin Americans are the largest region of origin group in the metro area, followed by Asians

Region of origin for the foreign-born population, federally-defined region, 2007



# The languages spoken by the region's youth are diverse

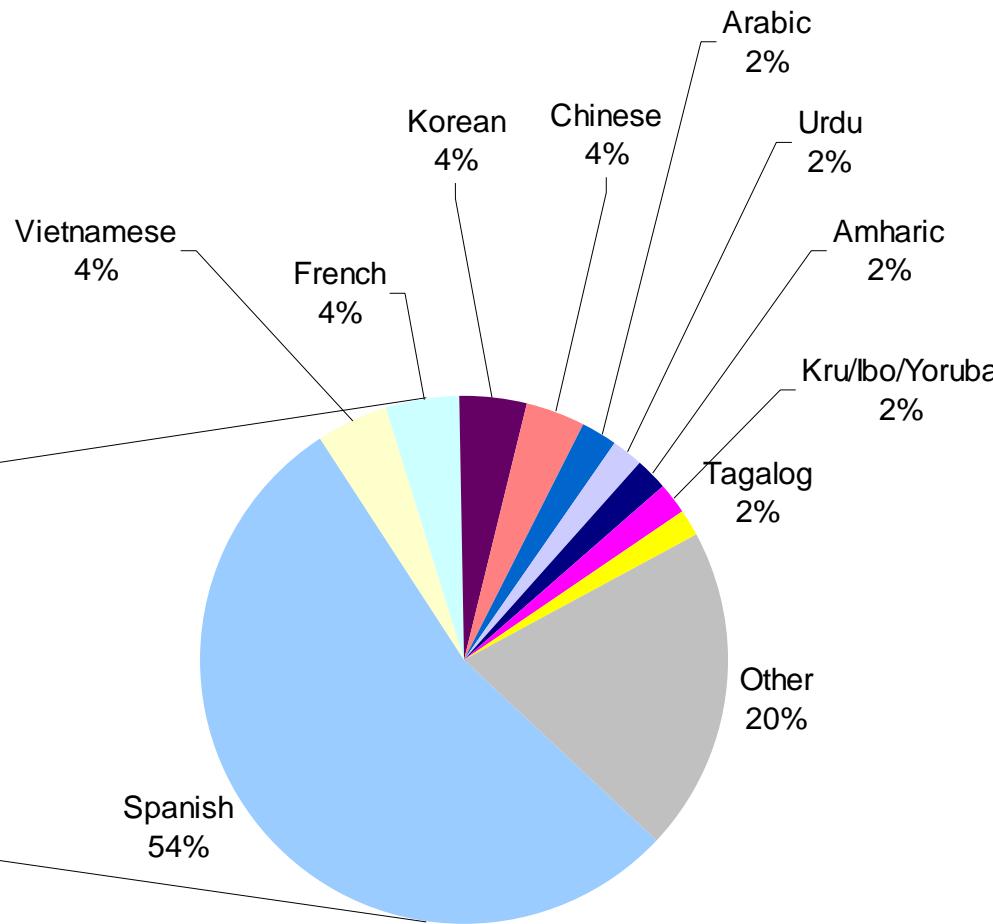
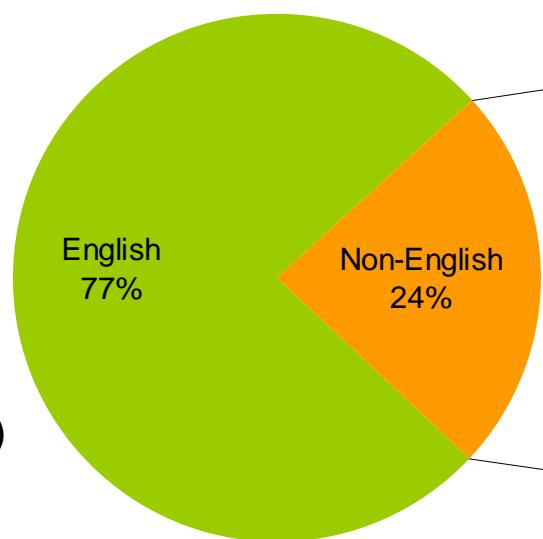
Top Ten Languages Spoken  
at Home for Children  
Ages 5 to 17 (in thousands)

English (689, 76.3%)

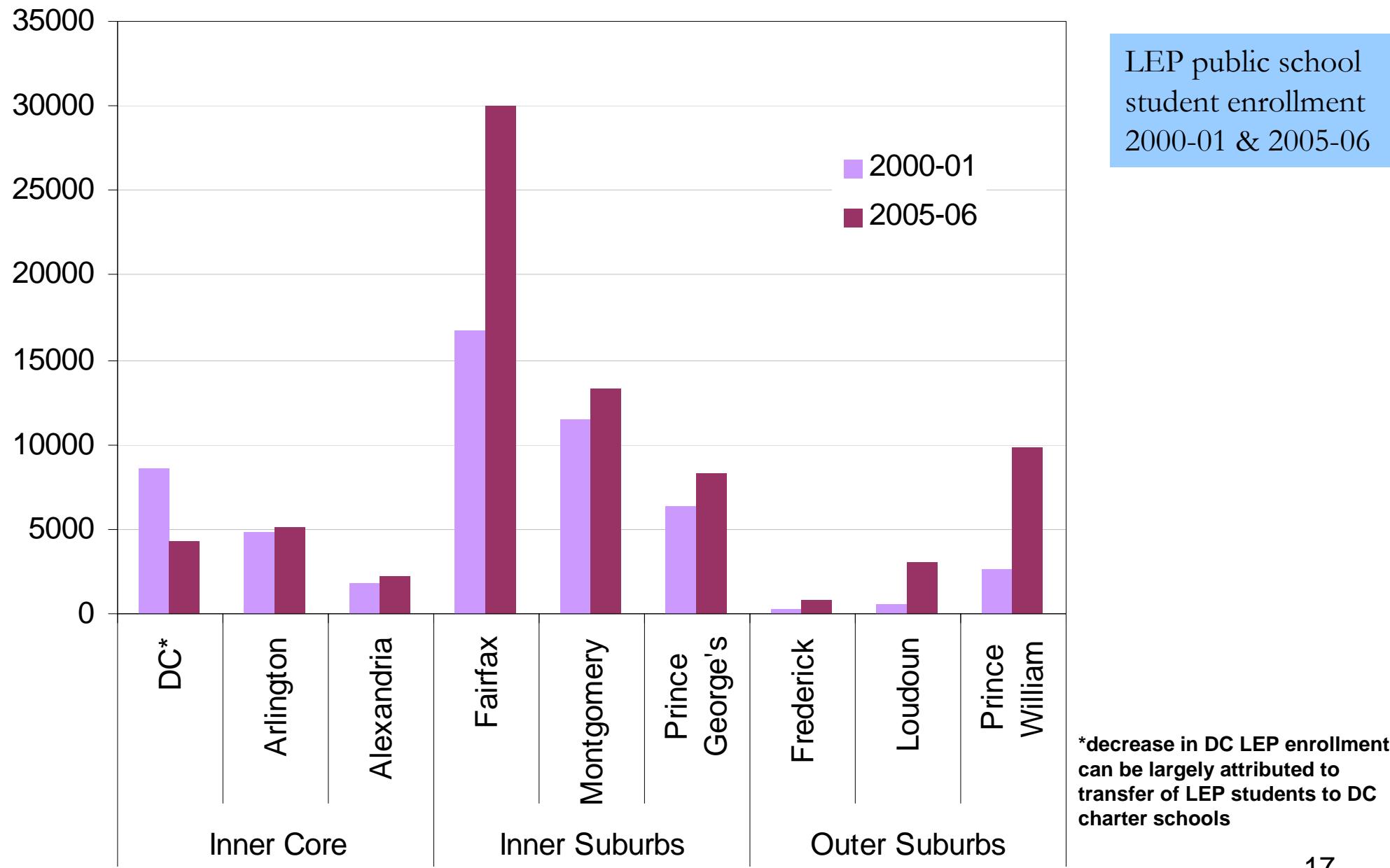
Non-English (214, 24%):

1. Spanish (115, 12.8%)
2. Vietnamese (10, 1.1%)
3. French (9, 1.0%)
4. Korean (9, 1.0%)
5. Chinese (8, 0.9%)
6. Arabic (5, 0.5%)
7. Urdu (4, 0.5%)
8. Amharic (4, 0.5%)
9. Kru/Ibo/Yoruba (4, 0.5%)
10. Tagalog (4, 0.5%)

TOTAL age 5 to 17: 902



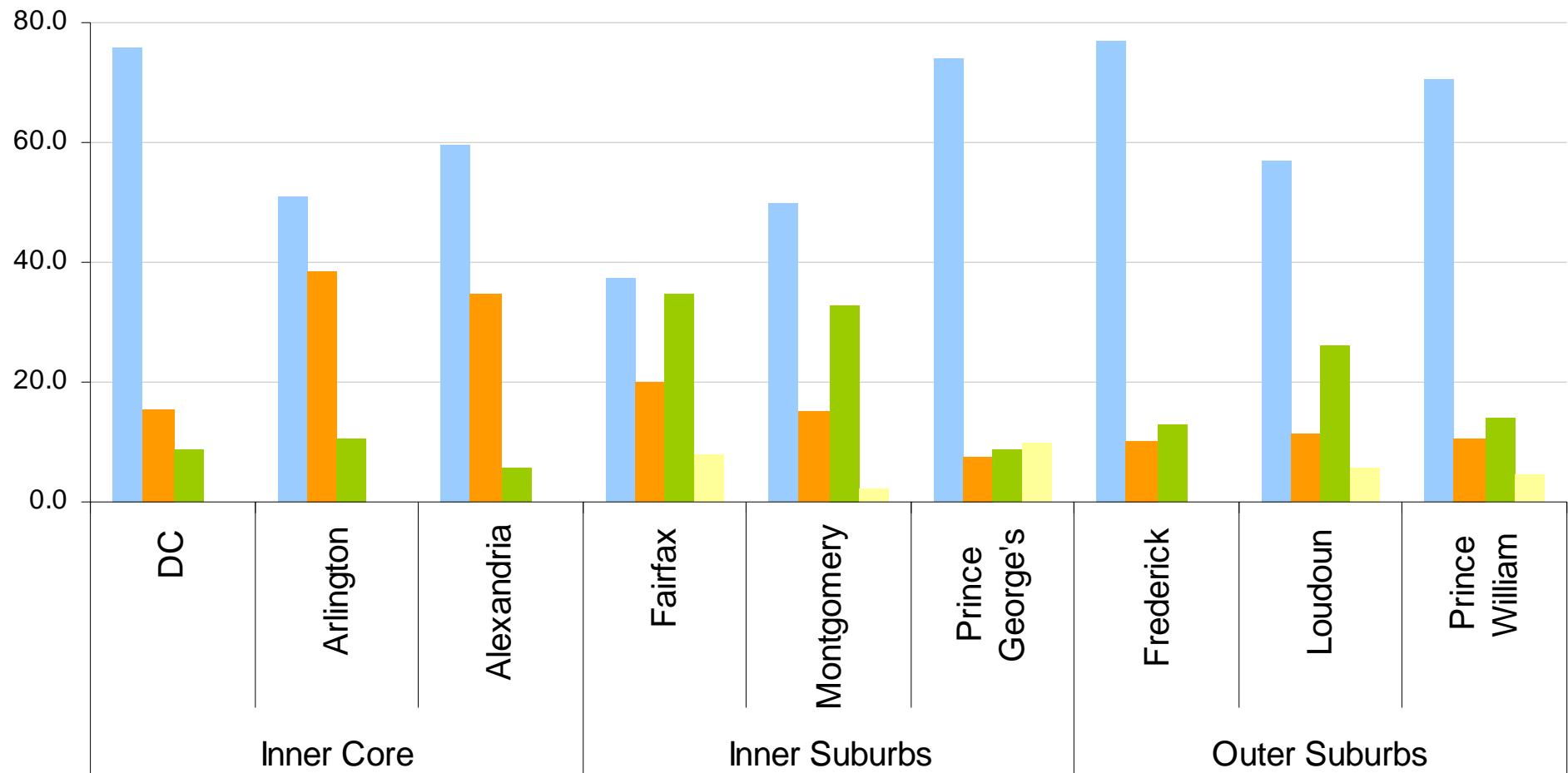
# Fairfax and Prince William Counties have experienced the largest increases in Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students



Spanish is the most common language spoken by LEP youth.  
Asian languages are also prevalent in Fairfax, Montgomery, and Loudoun

Native language of LEP youth  
by county

■ Spanish ■ Other Indo-European ■ Asian ■ Other languages

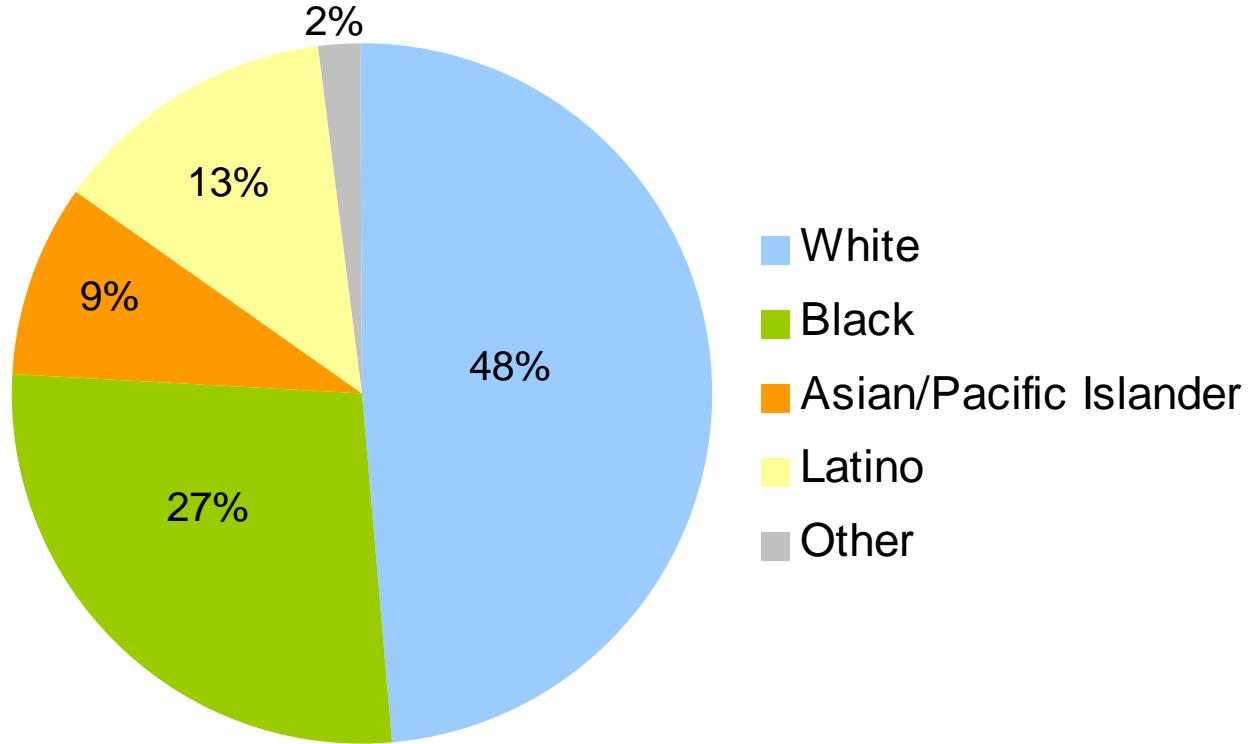


In 2007, 58 percent of the region's youth population was non-white compared to 52 percent of the total population

Youth population by race/ethnicity, VPP-defined region

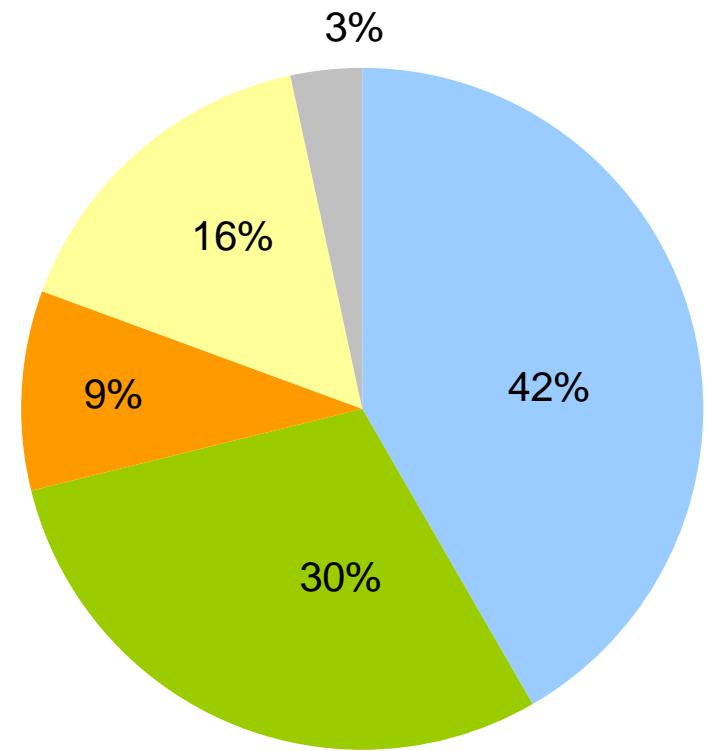
## Total Population

4,566,621



## 19 and under

1,227,762

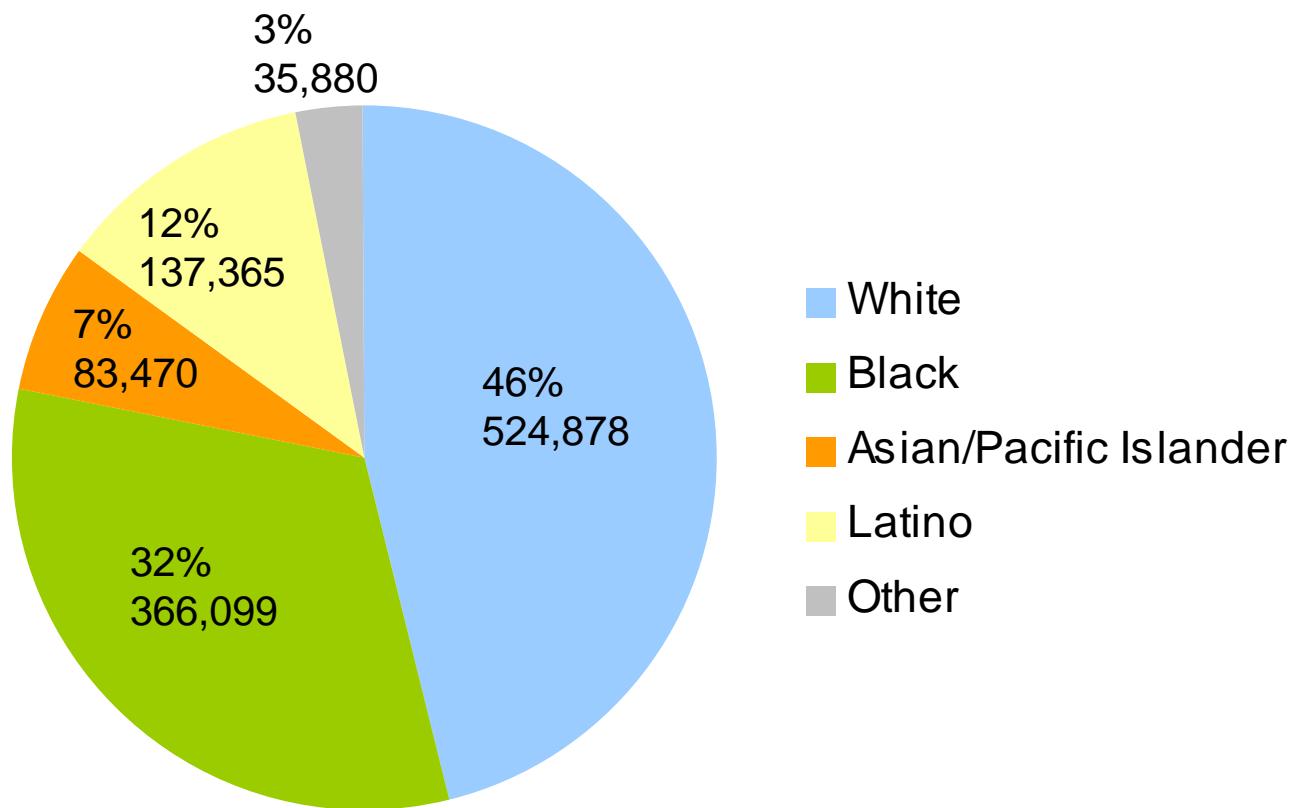


“Other” refers to race other than those listed in addition to individuals who marked more than one race.

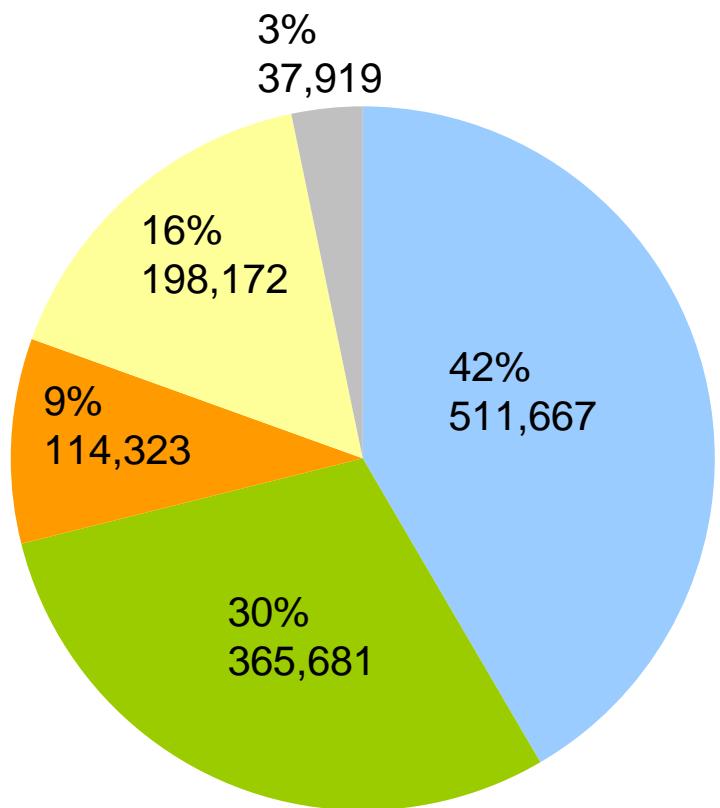
# Since 2000, the Asian and Latino shares of the youth population in the region have increased

Population 19 and under by race/ethnicity,  
2000 and 2007, VPP-defined region

**2000**



**2007**

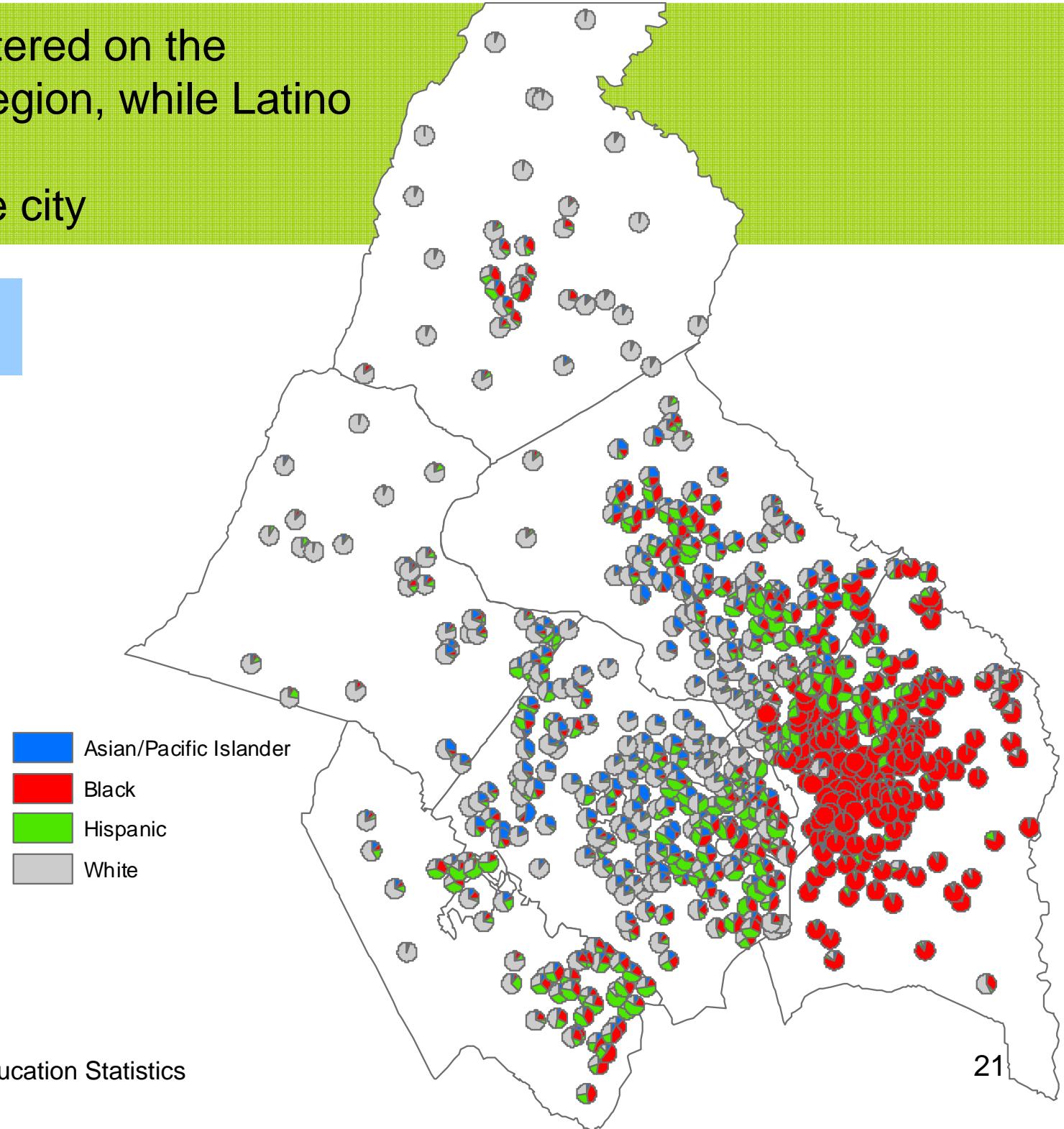


“Other” refers to race other than those listed in addition to individuals who marked more than one race.

Source: Census 2000 and ACS 2007

Black youth are clustered on the eastern side of the region, while Latino and Asian youth are north and west of the city

Elementary school students by race/ethnicity, 2005-06



Source: National Center for Education Statistics



## **Demographic and Economic Trends in the National Capital Region and their Effects on Children, Youth and Families**

**I**

The region is growing, decentralizing and becoming more diverse, with increasing minority and foreign-born populations

**II**

The region is generally prosperous, with a strong employment base, high education levels, and high wages

**III**

But prosperity and opportunities are not shared by all and many families are experiencing economic hardship

# The regional economy is tied to the federal government and associated professional services

Professional/technical services and the federal government make up **24%** of regional jobs and **8%** of national jobs

Retail and manufacturing make up **19%** of national jobs and about **9%** of regional jobs\*

Compensation (wages and benefits) for the top three industries:

### Regionally

Professional/Technical Services:	\$81,653
Federal, civilian:	\$121,479
Retail:	\$28,550

### Nationally

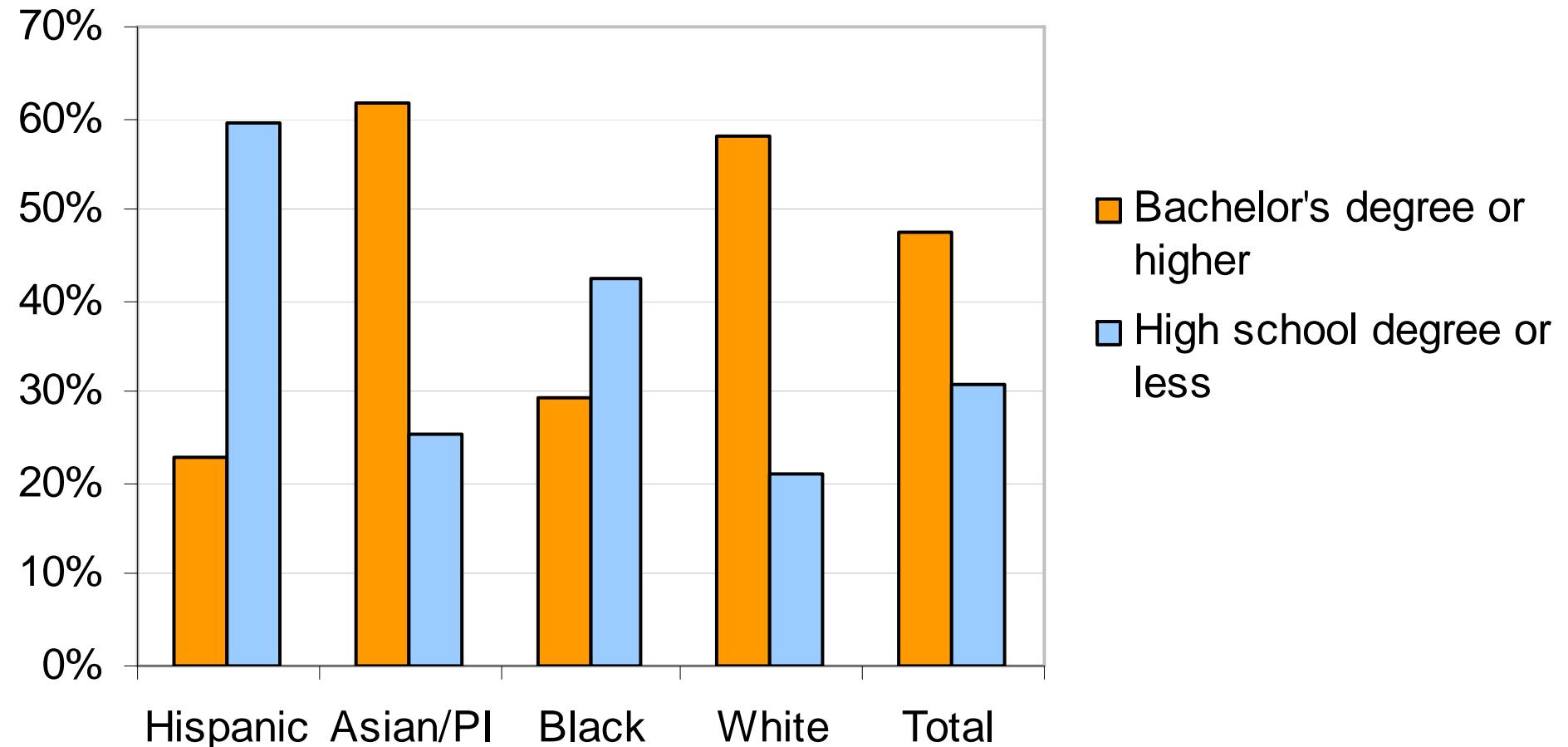
Retail:	\$24,887
Healthcare:	\$39,995
Manufacturing:	\$65,177

\* An estimate – manufacturing numbers not disclosed regionally because of small sample size

23

# Nearly half of adults in the region have a Bachelor's degree, compared to the national average of 28 percent

Educational attainment of adults 25 years and older by race/ethnicity, federally-defined region



Source: 2007 American Community Survey



# **Demographic and Economic Trends in the National Capital Region and their Effects on Children, Youth and Families**

I

The region is growing, decentralizing and becoming more diverse, with increasing minority and foreign-born populations

II

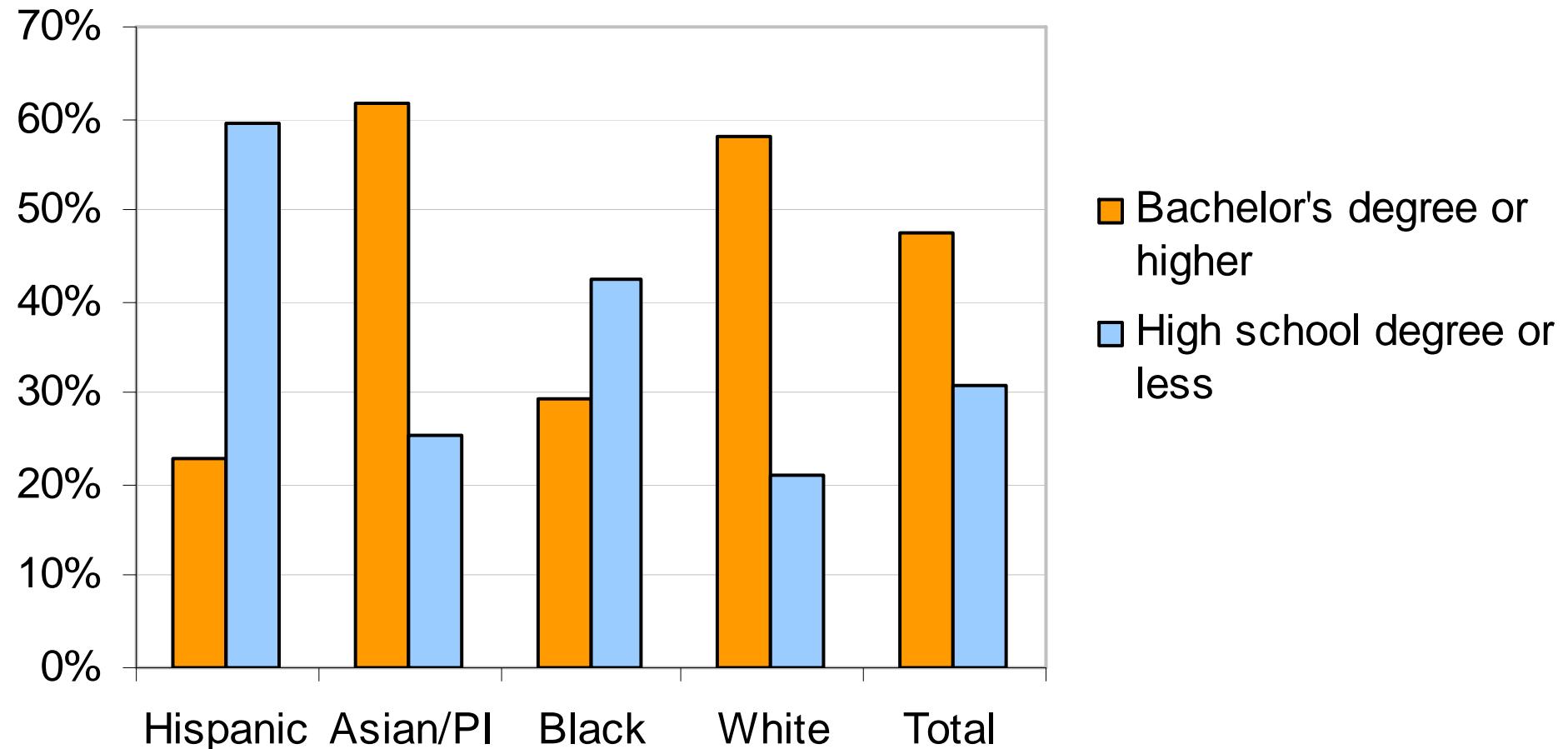
The region is generally prosperous, with a strong employment base, high education levels, and high wages

III

But prosperity and opportunities are not shared by all and many families are experiencing economic hardship

# More Blacks and Hispanics have a high school degree or less than a college degree

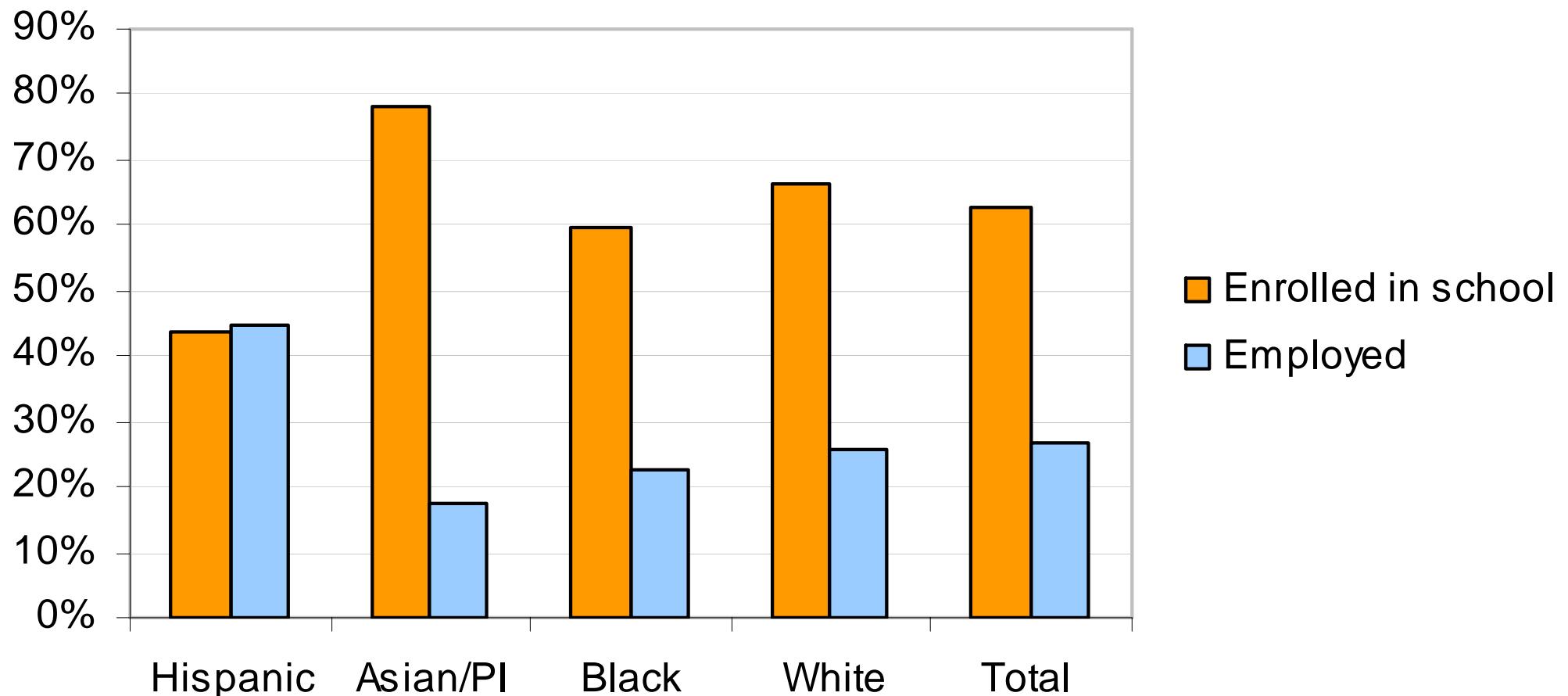
Educational attainment of adults 25 years and older by race/ethnicity, federally-defined region



Source: 2007 American Community Survey

# Young Blacks and Hispanics are less likely to be enrolled in school than their White and Asian peers

Young people ages 16-24 by school enrollment and labor force status by race/ethnicity, federally-defined region

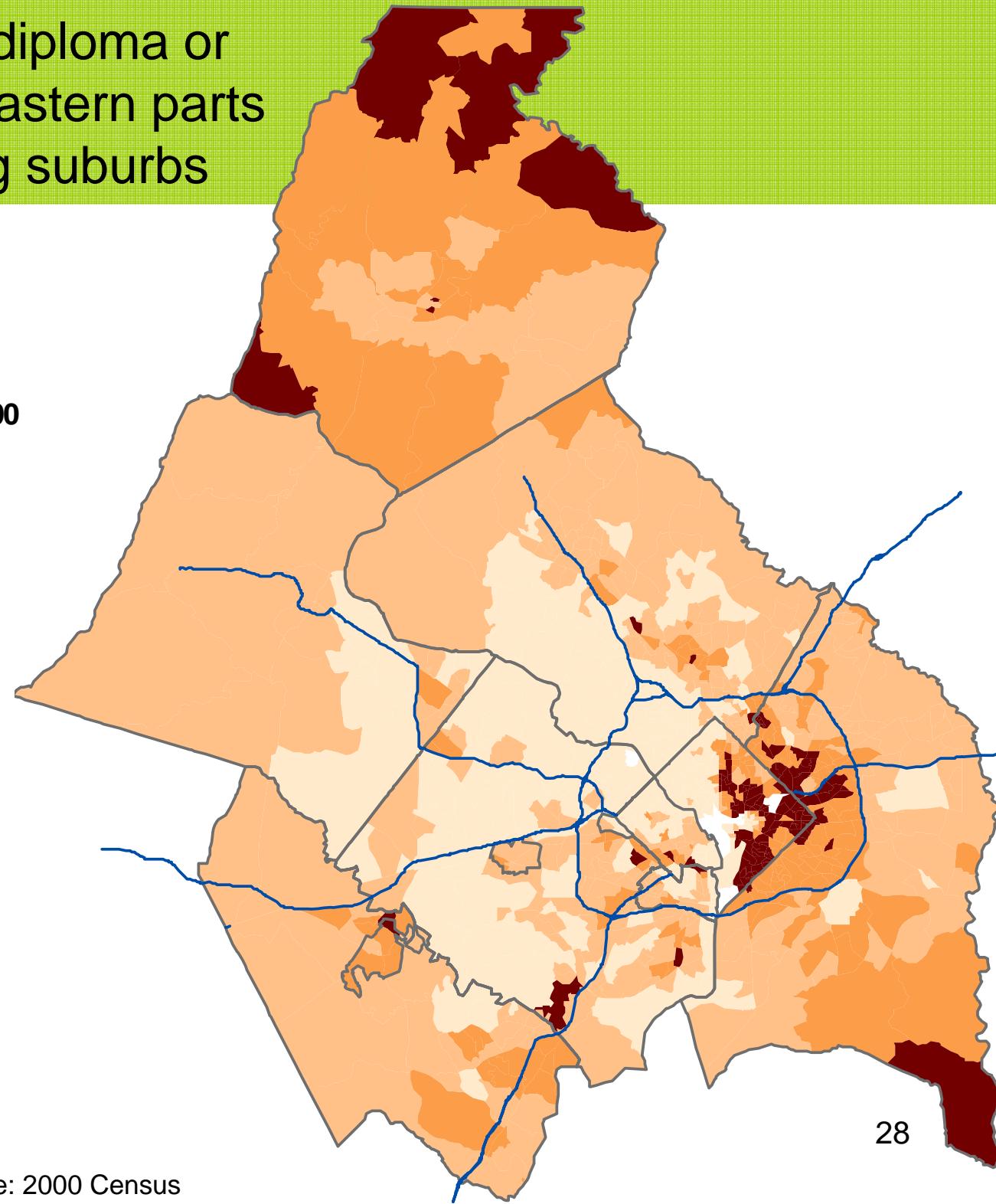


Source: 2007 American Community Survey

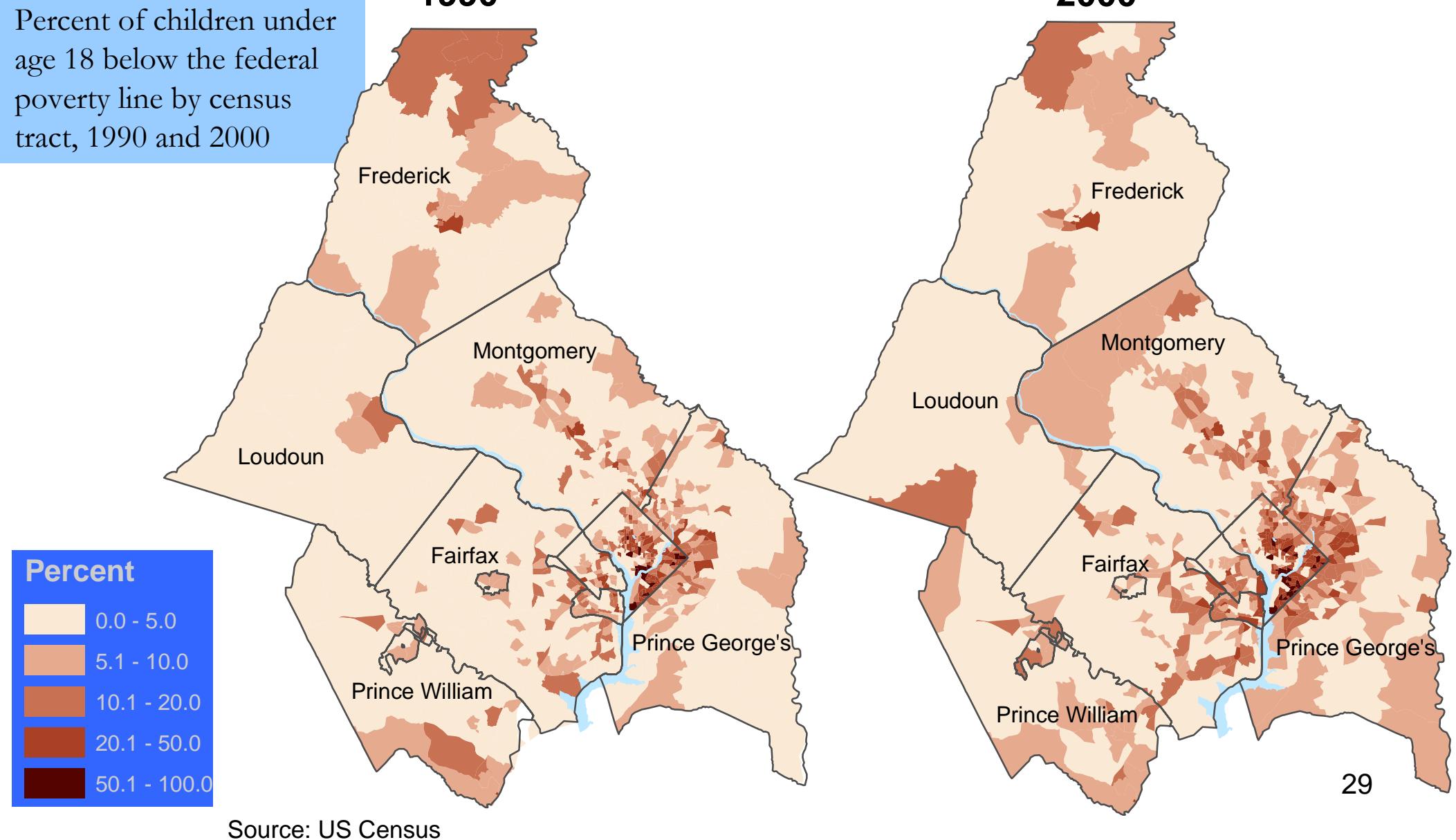
Adults with a high school diploma or less are clustered in the eastern parts of the city and neighboring suburbs

**Share of Adults  
with High School Degree  
or Less by Census Tract, 2000**

- Less than 20 percent
- 20 to 39 percent
- 40 to 59 percent
- 60 percent or more

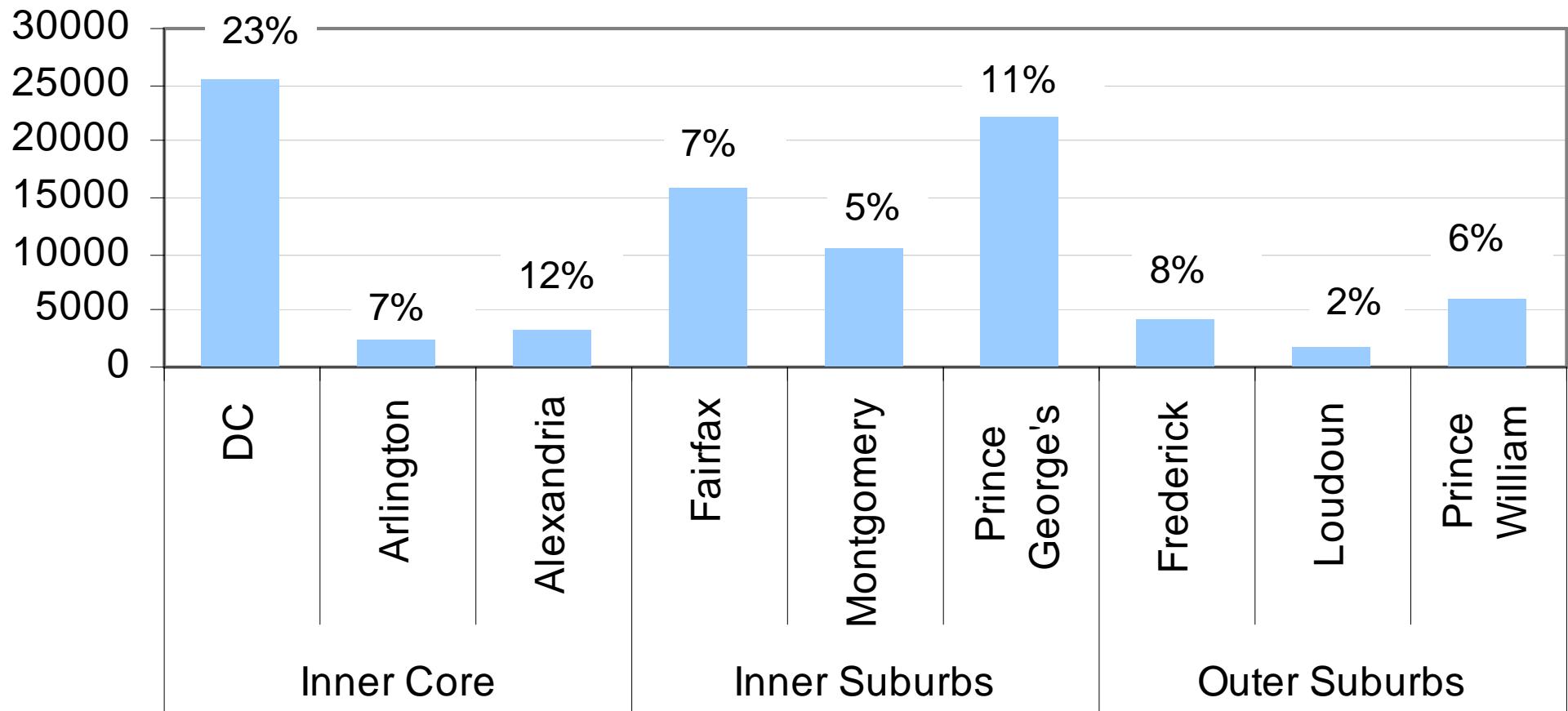


Child poverty is concentrated in DC, although there are pockets around the region, including affluent counties like Montgomery and Fairfax



# In numbers and percentages, child poverty is highest in DC and Prince George's County

Number and percent of children under the federal poverty line by jurisdiction, 2007

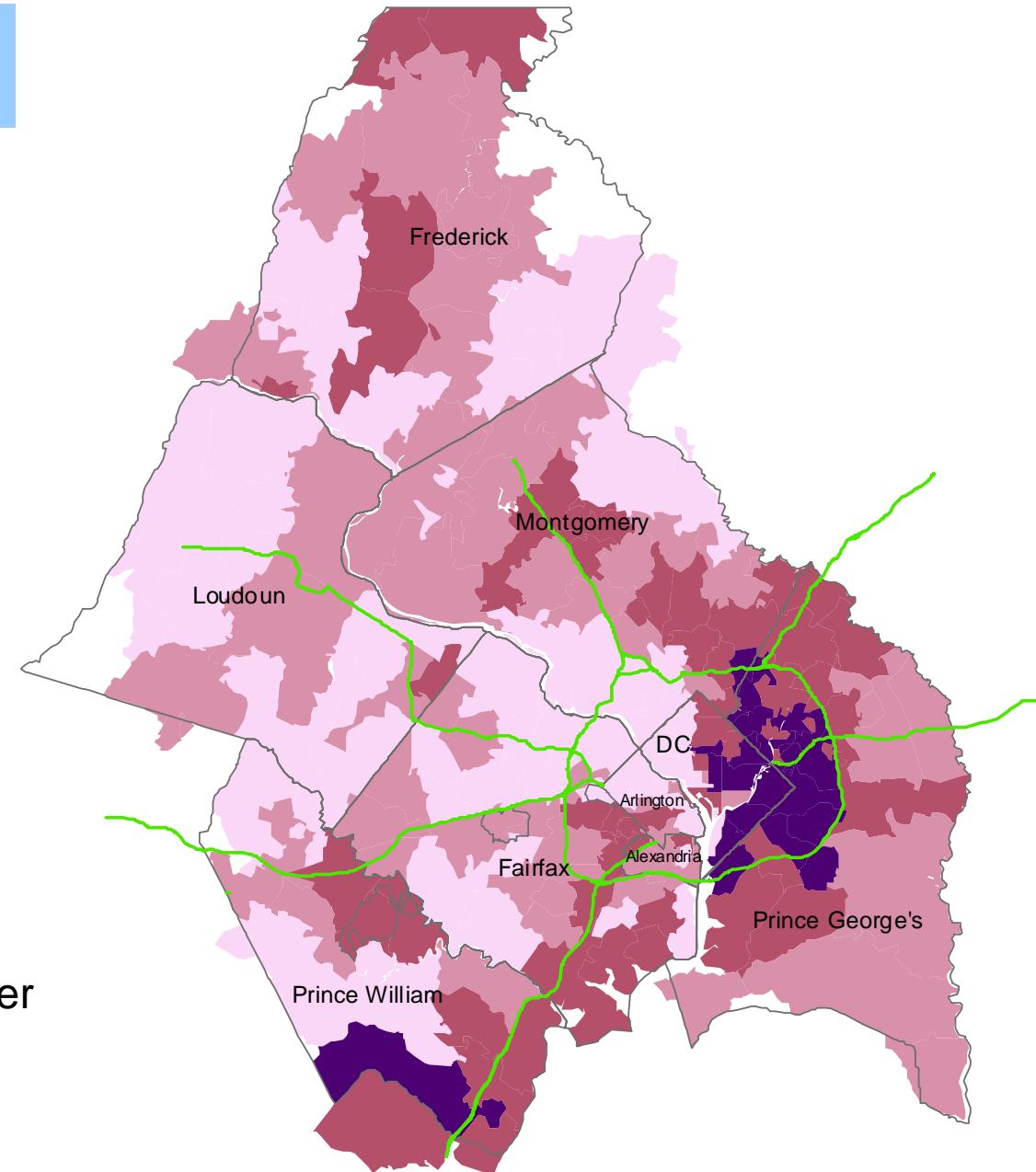


# The working poor live throughout the region, but are concentrated in the District and Prince George's County

Percent of tax filers who received the  
Earned Income Tax Credit, 2005

## Percent of Returns with EITC

- 0.0 to 5.0 percent
- 5.1 to 10.0 percent
- 10.1 to 20.0 percent
- 20.1 percent or greater
- no data



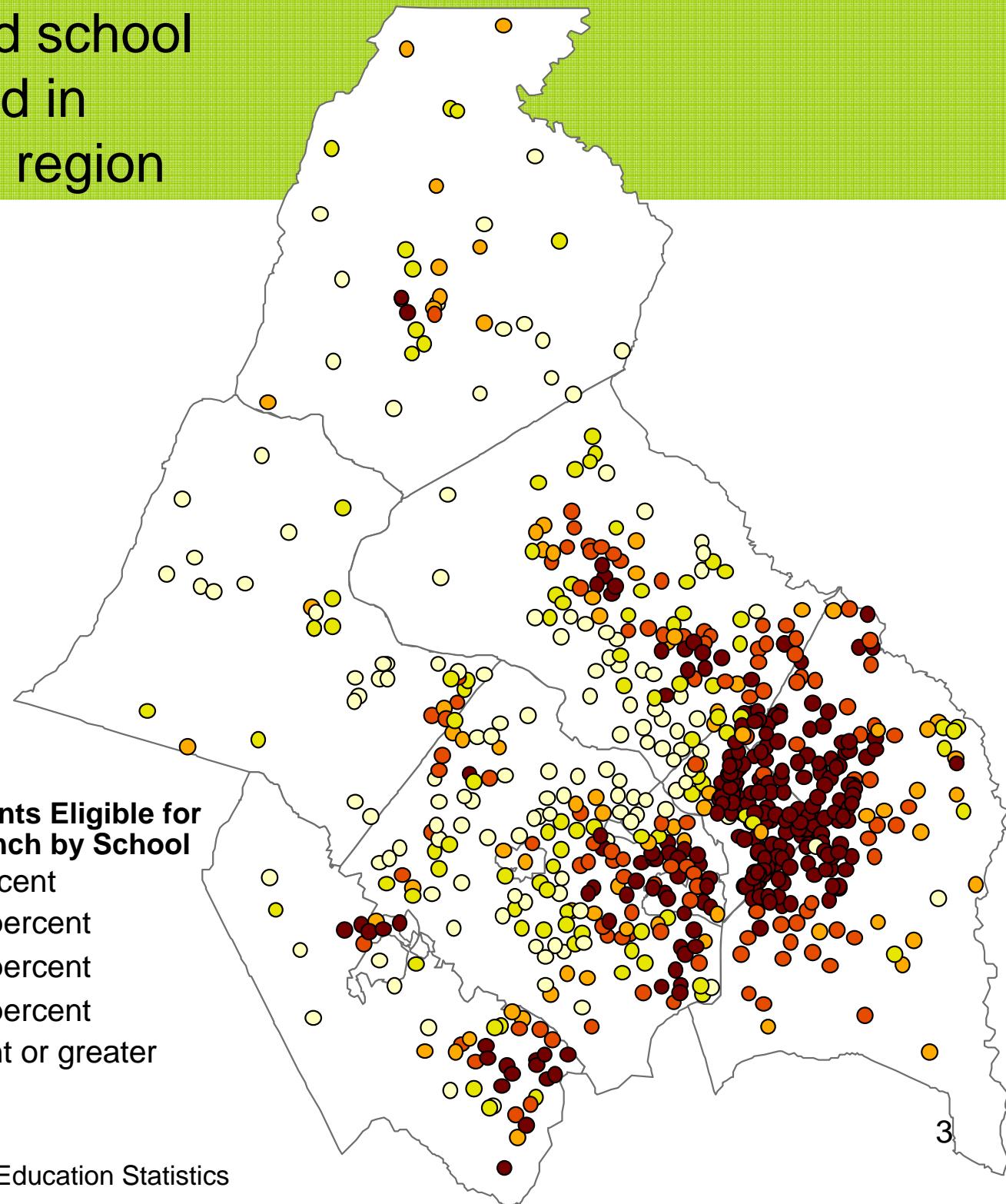
Source: IRS SPEC Database

# Eligibility for subsidized school lunches is concentrated in eastern portions of the region

Eligibility for free and reduced price school lunches in elementary schools, 2005-06

## Share of Students Eligible for Subsidized Lunch by School

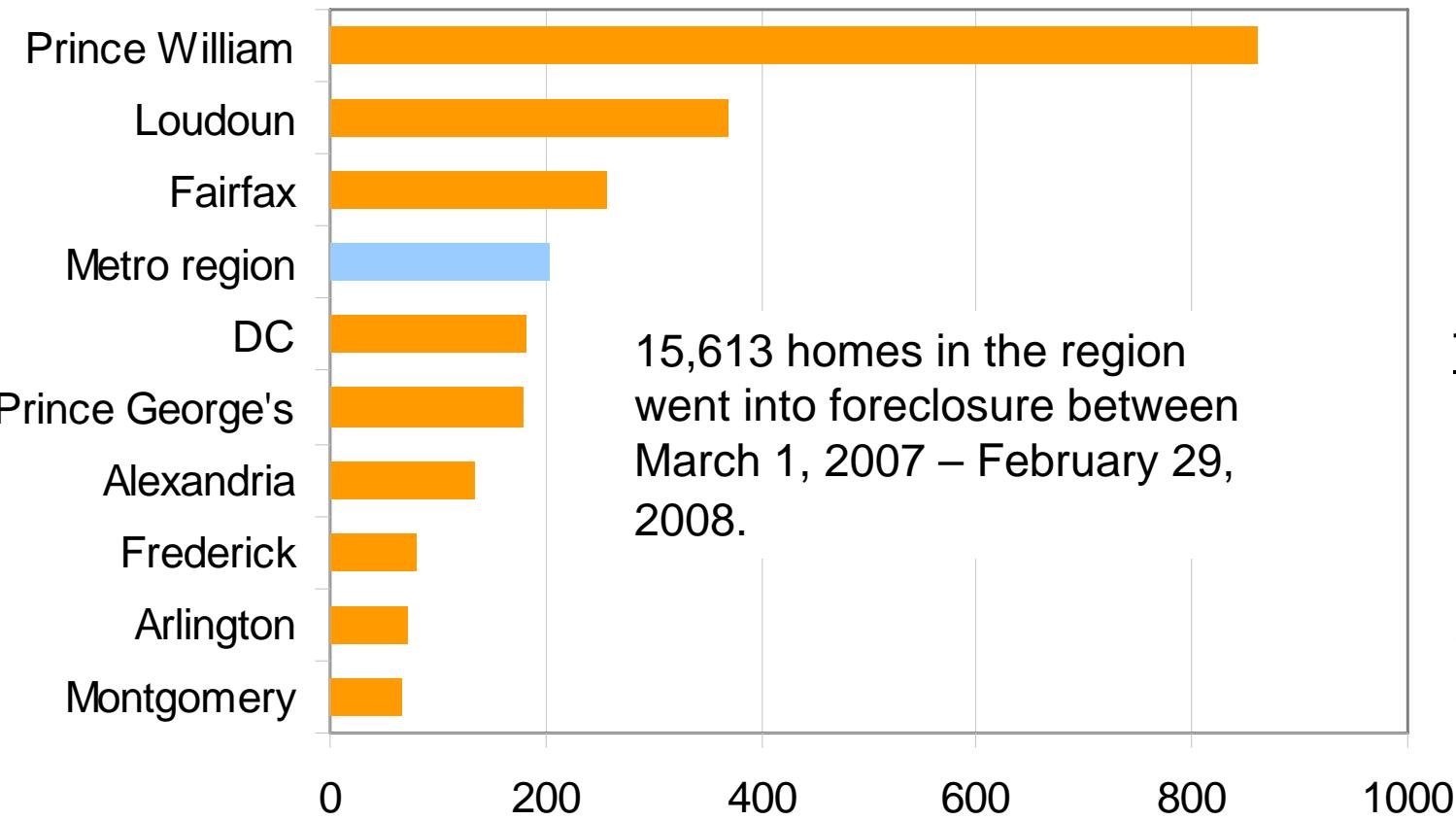
- 0 to 9 percent
- 10 to 19 percent
- 20 to 29 percent
- 30 to 49 percent
- 50 percent or greater



Source: National Center for Education Statistics

# The foreclosure rate is highest in the suburbs, especially Prince William County

Number of foreclosures  
per 10,000 owner-occupied  
units, October 2008



## Top 5 jurisdictions:

Prince William – 17 %  
Prince George's – 17%  
Fairfax – 13%  
DC – 13%  
Montgomery – 9%



Public library,  
Montgomery County, MD

[www.brookings.edu/washington](http://www.brookings.edu/washington)

[www.brookings.edu/metro](http://www.brookings.edu/metro)