

The federal poverty level is a relic set in the 1960s based on food costs only. It does not take into account other costs such as housing, child care, and health care. Policy makers agree that in the absence of an updated federal poverty line, we need to adopt a measure that reflects local living costs. In Arlington, 150% of the federal poverty level is \$38,700 for a family of 4 (which is 150% of the federal poverty level). This is a more accurate reflection of poverty in our community. There are 10,000 households or 24,700 individuals living below this level. That is 11% of our population. Figures are for the most recent years they are available.

Statistic		Source	Notes
2021 AMI family of 4	\$129,000	https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html	
2021 ≤30% AMI family of 4	\$38,700	30% of 129,000	
2019 # of individuals in Arlington living at ≤30% AMI	24,700	https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/summary-file.html	150% federal poverty level can be used as a proxy for 30% AMI.
2018 # of households at ≤30% AMI	10,057	Arlington County Housing Needs Analysis .	(includes renters (~8000 + ~2000 owners)
2021 Highest poverty zipcode	22204	https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml	
2021 Highest poverty neighborhood	Columbia Heights (also known as Arlington Mill) census tract 2200	https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/summary-file.html	Below 100% federal poverty level: Columbia Hgts./Arl. Mill (Ct 2200) -29% Buckingham-(ct 2003) 21% Barcroft- (ct 2701) 20%
2019 School with highest free and reduced lunch	Carlin Springs Elementary School- 81% FRL	Arlington Public Schools https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SNPMonthlyEligibilityReport.pdf	% of students with FRL: Carlin Springs Elem-81% Randolph Elem-73% Barcroft, Barrett and Drew Elem. 61-62%

See the No. VA Health Foundation tool <https://novahealthfdn.org/interactive-map-opportunity/> to toggle through 20 different social health indicators by census tract, showing neighborhood disparities based on 20 different data points. For example, Buckingham (census tract 2003) has the lowest life expectancy, Barcroft (2701) the highest % of 3-4 year olds not in pre-school; and Columbia Heights/Arlington Mill (2200) the most severely housing-cost burdened.