

The federal poverty level is a relic set in the 1960s based predominantly on food costs. It does not take into account other costs such as housing, child care and health care or geographic variation. Policy makers agree that in the absence of an updated federal poverty line, we need to adopt a measure that reflects local living costs. 30% of Arlington’s 2024 Area Median Income is \$46,410 for a household of 4, which is about 150% of the federal poverty level. This is a more accurate reflection of poverty in our community. Just under 11% of our Arlington population is at or below this level. The 2022 American Community (Census) Survey shows that there are nearly 11,700 households, or 25,000 individuals, living below 30% of the AMI. The figures below are for the most recent years they are available. *Special thanks to Elizabeth Hardy, Arlington County Demographer, for her help with this data.*

Statistic		Source	Notes			
2024 AMI Household of 4	\$154,700	https://tinyurl.com/2024HUDAMI	Area	ACS2022 1-Year Estimate	CPI Inflation Factor	FY 2024 Area MFI Estimate
			Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD HUD Metro FMR Area	\$145,746	1.0618	(\$145,746 * 1.0618) = \$154,746
2024 ≤30% AMI Household of 4	\$46,410	30% of \$154,700				
2022 # of individuals living at ≤30% AMI	24,758	ACS 2022 1-Year Estimate (C17002) https://tinyurl.com/2022ACSindividuals	Below 150% federal poverty level can be used as a proxy for 30% AMI as they are very close in value.			
2022 # of households ≤30% AMI	11,678	ACS Public Use Microdata Sample 2022 1-Year Estimate https://tinyurl.com/2022ACShouseholds	9,525 renter households + 2,055 owner households at/below 30% AMI (ACS 2020 5-Year Estimate)			
Zip code with highest number of individuals in poverty	22204 6,612 individuals	ACS 2022 5-Year Estimate (C17002) https://tinyurl.com/ACS2022zipcodes				
2022 Highest poverty neighborhoods	Arlington Mill Buckingham Long Branch Crk. NW Douglas Park	ACS 2022 5-Year Estimate https://tinyurl.com/2022ACSneighborhoods	# of individuals below 30% AMI (150% federal_poverty level): Arlington Mill CT 1022- 1,662 (20%) Buckingham CT 1020.01- 1,339 (35%) Buckingham CT 1020.03- 1,220 (27%) Long Branch Creek CT 1038- 984 (20%) NW Douglas Park CT 1027-819 (22%)			
2022 schools with highest free and reduced lunch (last yr. with data by school amongst high poverty schools)	Barcroft, Barrett, Carlin Springs, Drew, Randolph All at 75%	https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/57/2023/05/FREE-REDUCED-OCTOBER-31-2022-V3.pdf				