

Occupations of Immigrants to the Potomac Subregion Zip Code 20854, 1992 through 1996

Occupation	Number of Immigrants	% of Total
Service occupations	254	34.8%
Executive, administrative, managerial	135	18.5%
Administrative & support occupations, including clerical	55	7.5%
Engineering, surveyors and mapping scientists	39	5.3%
Teachers, except post-secondary	33	4.5%
Sales occupations	24	3.3%
Operators, fabricators, & laborers	24	3.3%
Social, recreation, and religious workers	21	2.9%
Physicians	18	2.5%
Teachers, post secondary	17	2.3%
All other	109	15.0%
Total	729	100.0%

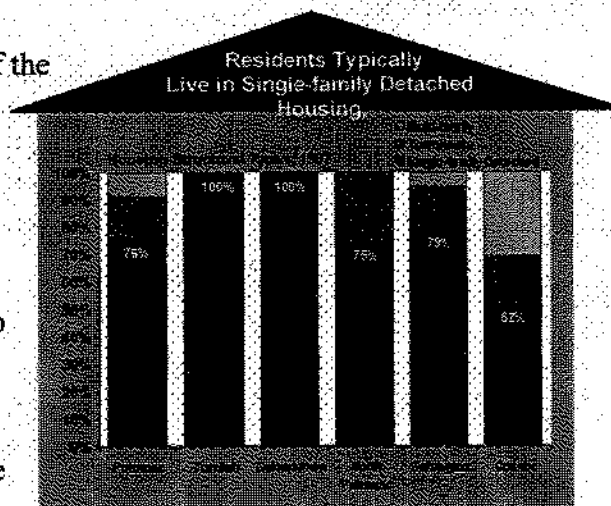
Source: U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, M-NCPPC Research and Technology Center

A relatively high proportion—31 percent—of the Subregion's households (1997), have a foreign-born household head or spouse. This percentage is even higher in North Potomac, where 37 percent of the household heads are foreign-born. By comparison, 26 percent of the households Countywide have a foreign-born head or spouse.

Housing Characteristics

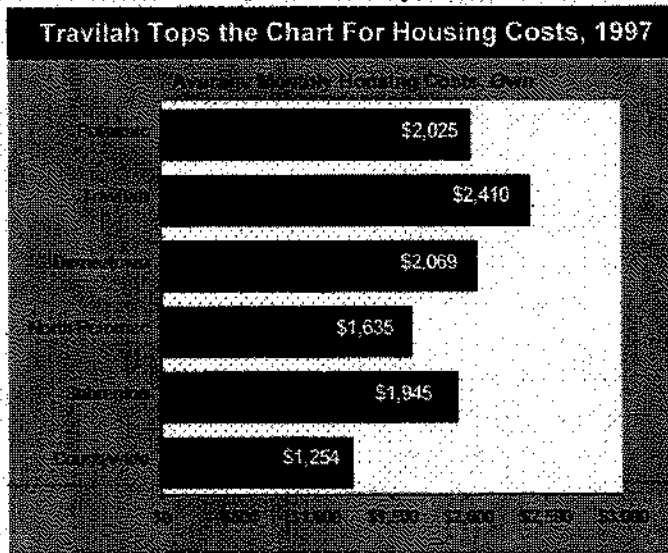
Housing by Structure Type

The great majority—79 percent—of the Subregion's households live in single-family detached housing structures, compared to only 52 percent Countywide. In Darnestown and Travilah, all residents live in single-family detached housing. North Potomac, with 75 percent, has a slightly smaller proportion of residents who live in single-family detached housing than the Subregion as a whole. Twenty-five percent of North Potomac residents live in town houses compared to 16 percent for the Subregion as a whole and 17 percent Countywide.



Housing Costs and Sales Prices

Housing costs of the Subregion's residents are generally high. Median costs for homeowners are \$1,972 monthly, and for renters, \$1,112 (Note that a larger percentage of the Subregion's rentals are of



single-family houses, which typically have higher rents than apartments). Countywide, these median costs are \$1,254 for homeowners and \$804 for renters. Only 9 percent of households in the Subregion rent, compared to 29 percent Countywide.

In 1997, the average sales price of the 209 new single-family detached homes sold in the Potomac Subregion was \$552,200; and the average cost of the 60 new

townhomes was \$308,300. Although housing prices were high in all four areas compared to the County, new homes were especially expensive in the Potomac Planning Area. The average sales price of the 62 new single-family detached homes sold in this planning area was \$608,400 compared to a combined average of \$528,600 for 147 such homes in the other three areas. The 22 new town homes in the Potomac Planning Area sold for an average \$250,000, compared to an average \$341,900 in North Potomac.

Countywide, the average sales price of the 750 new single-family detached homes was \$391,200, and the average sales price of the 639 new town homes was \$173,900³.

Type of Households

The great majority of Potomac Subregion households are family households (households of two or more persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage). Eighty-eight percent of the Subregion's households are family households compared to 75 percent for the County as a whole. Primarily these are married couple households, with a very small proportion of single-parent households in this area.

Length of Residence

Householders in the Potomac Subregion generally have lived at their current address substantially longer than those Countywide. At either end of the spectrum, Potomac residents stayed put the longest with a median of 11 years; and North Potomac residents are relative new comers with a median of 6 years. Darnestown and Travilah residents match the Subregion's median of nine years. The long tenure of Potomac Planning Area residents probably relates to the older and more established character of the area. At the same time, the shorter tenure of householders in North Potomac is likely influenced more by the newness of the housing stock than by a transient population.

³ Sales data is from Park & Planning's Sales Transaction Automated Report, for 1997.