

## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 22, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE 2006 NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT FROM THE ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO THE VIRGINIA DISABILITY SERVICES COUNCIL

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**ISSUE:** Receipt of the 2006 Needs Assessment Report from the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) to the Virginia Disability Services Council (Attachment).

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** That City Council receive the Needs Assessment Report, which is a state-mandated report, submitted triennially, to the Virginia Disability Services Council from the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities, and thank the Commission members for their efforts on behalf of the City.

**DISCUSSION:** The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities is a 17-member advisory Board appointed by City Council to serve in an advocacy role on disability-related issues in Alexandria. The ACPD distributes the State's triennial Needs Assessment survey instrument and compiles the results. The top three needs of Alexandrians with disabilities identified were accessible transportation, medical and therapeutic services, and accessible housing. The Virginia Disability Services Council uses the results to set priorities, plan Disabilities Services Boards' activities, and provide much needed information about unmet needs, service gaps, and systems issues across the state.

- ◆ Accessible transportation is reported as the primary concern for persons with disabilities in the City of Alexandria. This has become even more apparent in recent weeks with the extensive news items on MetroAccess, which is the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) paratransit service. In Alexandria, the DOT paratransit program and DASH bus system are available as accessible transportation options for persons with disabilities.

The ACPD recommends that DASH implement a reduced fare system similar to the one used by WMATA and all other regional transportation service providers. In addition, the ACPD encourages DASH to accept the use of WMATA's Senior and Disabled ID card. All other regional transportation programs accept this ID card. A person with a disability

holding WMATA's "Senior and Disabled" ID card has to incur an additional cost to ride DASH.

- ◆ Medical and therapeutic services continue to be issues for Alexandrians with disabilities. Increasingly, persons with disabilities struggle to find accessible and affordable medical insurance and services. This, when combined with the soaring costs of health care, low incomes, and limited insurance options, prevents access to adequate health care.
- ◆ Accessible housing has been cited in previous Needs Assessments and is an ongoing and growing concern. The lack of affordable and accessible housing and limited available resources for assistance serve as barriers to independent living for persons with disabilities. The ACPD's Housing Committee and the full Commission intend to focus more on these concerns and anticipate meeting with housing officials in the City to seek strategies to removing barriers and meeting unmet needs.

Because the ACPD was not confident that the Needs Assessment Survey and Report to the Virginia Disability Services Council fully reached or captured all persons with disabilities living in Alexandria, the ACPD has called upon the state to develop a more comprehensive survey that would provide more meaningful results. The current survey, for example, did not capture demographic information or provide a means to breakdown and further examine data. It is the sense of the ACPD that the questions were too general to provide a true sense of the needs of Alexandrians with disabilities.

The need for disability awareness remains paramount. Too often the ACPD receives feedback that persons were not aware of the programs and services available to Alexandrians with disabilities. The ACPD is committed to increasing awareness through the City's web site and printed materials and other media including newspapers, radio, and eNews. The ACPD wants to promote awareness among the City's employees, residents, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

The ACPD asserts, moreover, that it is vitally important and necessary that the needs of persons with disabilities be considered in day-to-day decision making and that the City of Alexandria should strive to be a model City for persons with disabilities. The ACPD is an excellent resource, and its members encourage the City and its departments to call upon and include the ACPD in their decision making processes. Housing, health, and transportation are critical areas for persons with disabilities and the ACPD can provide input to help raise concerns and suggest solutions that might not have been considered by persons without disabilities. The ACPD will continue to advocate for fully accessible programs, services, buildings, and transportation, and to increase the accessibility and availability of disability related information.

The ACPD recognizes the need to increase public awareness of the needs of persons with disabilities, and will seek to increase programmatic and service support in the three most often identified areas of need.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This triennial Needs Assessment is a state required instrument for Disability Services Boards in the Commonwealth of Virginia. While DASH fares are slated to be increased, DOT has agreed that its fares will remain the same for the coming year. The ACPD has asked DASH to implement a reduced fare for persons with disabilities and to accept the WMATA “Senior and Disabled” ID Card. DASH is considering the ACPD’s recommendations, but has not completed its cost benefit analysis. The fiscal impact of any changes in fare structure, therefore, is speculative at this time.

**ATTACHMENT:** The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities 2006 Needs Assessment Report to the Virginia Disability Services Council.

**STAFF:**

Mike Hatfield, Disability Resources Coordinator

Jean Kelleher Niebauer, Director, Office of Human Rights



**Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities**



**Needs Assessment Report to the  
Virginia Disability Services Council -- February 2006**

**Introduction**

The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities ("ACPD" or "the Commission") serves as Alexandria's Disability Services Board ("DSB"). The ACPD is a 17 member volunteer citizen body appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The Commission is comprised of 14 citizen members, a representative of the Alexandria Commission on Aging, and two representatives of the business community (one from the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and one at-large). A majority of the citizen members are persons with disabilities. The Commission is organized into an executive committee and five standing committees, as well as ad hoc committees.

Through its committees, the Commission focuses its work on issues related to transportation, accessibility, housing, employment, and public awareness. ACPD's monthly meetings are typically held at City Hall, Room 2000, at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The ACPD invites and encourages Alexandrians with disabilities to attend and to offer feedback, express concerns, and/or give commendations on disability-related issues in the City of Alexandria.

Nearly fifteen years before the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and ten years prior to the Virginians with Disabilities Act, the City of Alexandria established in 1974 what is now the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities to ensure that residents with disabilities could actively participate in decisions and recommend policies regarding City and state laws concerning, among other things, the removal of physical, attitudinal, social, and economic barriers confronting persons with disabilities.

The City of Alexandria is a diverse community with many cultures represented by our residents, businesses, employees, and visitors.

**Purpose**

Every three years, the ACPD in its role as the City's Disability Services Board surveys people with disabilities, family members of persons with disabilities, and service providers about the available and needed services in Alexandria. The results of the survey are used to develop a local Needs Assessment Report, which is provided to state and local officials. This Report is used to help determine what areas need priority

funding and targeted resources to improve the independence of people with physical and sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria. Locally obtained information on the needs of Alexandrians with physical and sensory disabilities is of great help to the ACPD when setting priorities, planning activities, and obtaining support from the Mayor, City Council, and others. The Needs Assessment also is important to state-level agencies and organizations as they provide much needed information about needs, service gaps, and systems issues across the state.

### Data Collection

In September 2005, the ACPD disseminated its needs assessment survey in several ways. It was mailed to persons with disabilities and family members of persons with disabilities known to the Commission and to local service providers. It was also distributed at the City's libraries, therapeutic recreation facilities, group homes, JobLink employment center, Citizen Assistance office, Housing, senior centers, adult day care center, and Special Education Parent Resources Center. It was sent by electronic mail to a long-term care electronic mailing list, a neighborhood association, and all City of Alexandria employees with encouragement to all to forward it to anyone who might be interested in completing it. In addition, a notice was sent to subscribers of the City's E-News service and an online version of the survey was placed on the City's web site. A link to the survey also was placed on the web site of the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons and on the web site of the National Organization on Disability. Also, press releases were published in the *Alexandria Gazette Packet* and the *Alexandria Times*.

As a result of electronic and Internet distribution of the ACPD's Needs Assessment survey, it is impossible to determine an exact number of surveys distributed and a corresponding response rate. The number of surveys returned, however, was most disappointing to the Commission. A total of 46 surveys were returned. Of those, 54% were from a person with a disability, 26% from family members of a person with a disability, 15% from service providers, and 5% did not identify their relationship to the person being described.

It is important to note that the ACPD is not confident that the results or findings in this Needs Assessment report are a representative sample or a true or realistic basis of the needs of persons with physical and sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

### United States Census 2000 Data

According to the United States Census, the total population of the City of Alexandria in 2000 was 128,283 and the total number of persons with disabilities was 17,559, or 14% (NOTE: this is all disabilities, not just physical and sensory).

Looking further into the U.S. Census Bureau's Disability Status by Sex: 2000 data, which identifies the population from ages 5 –15, 16 – 64, and 65 and over, a breakdown of physical and sensory disabilities can be identified.

Specifically, the population of persons 5 – 15 years old was 11,481. Of those, 109 reported physical disabilities and 71 reported sensory disabilities. In other words, less than 2% of this age group reported having physical and/or sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

The population of persons 16 – 64 years old was 94,969. Of those, 3,149 reported physical disabilities and 1,330 reported sensory disabilities. In other words, less than 5% of this age group reported having physical and/or sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

The population of persons 65 years and older was 10,486. Of those, 2,842 reported physical disabilities and 1,138 reported sensory disabilities. In other words, 38% of this age group reported having physical and/or sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

Overall, the population aged 5 and up was 116,936. Of those, 6,100 reported physical disabilities and 2,539 reported sensory disabilities. In other words, more than 7% of those aged 5 and up reported having physical and/or sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

### Summary of Results

The majority of the Needs Assessment survey's respondents were aged 23 – 59 with 64% falling in that range. Ages 0 – 22 accounted for 23% and 13% were 60 and older.

Of the disabilities listed on the survey, 30% of the respondents identified themselves as having a physical disability; 30% marked deaf / hard of hearing; 27% listed other including epilepsy, diabetes, quadriplegia, developmental delay, stroke, heart, MR/DD, cervical disc syndrome, HIV positive, and Alzheimer's; and 25% checked blind / vision impairment. The remaining percentages are as follows: 18% chronic medical; 18% learning disability; 11% brain injury; 9% ADD/ ADHD; 9% autism spectrum; and 9% speech impairment. (Note: given that some have more than one disability, the percentages will not total 100%.)

As noted above, the ACPD believes that given the low return of surveys, the findings and conclusions in this report are not necessarily based on a representative sample of persons with physical and sensory disabilities in Alexandria and their needs. However, a generalization can be made that the results of the returned survey do point to some of the recognized needs in the community.

The Needs Assessment survey respondents' top three unmet needs (checked as seriously affecting them) were accessible transportation; medical and therapeutic services including accessible, affordable medical insurance and services; and accessible housing. The lack of available accessible transportation is exaggerated by problems with the newly hired contractor providing these services.

### Accessible Transportation

As noted in the surveys returned, accessible transportation continues to be the primary concern for persons with disabilities in Alexandria. While undoubtedly there are a number of transportation providers and means in the City of Alexandria, accessible, affordable, and perhaps most importantly, reliable transportation remains as an essential unmet need.

One example of the ways the ACPD continued to advocate for the needs and rights of persons with disabilities was throughout the review of the City's taxi industry ordinance. This advocacy contributed several key elements to the newly adopted industry ordinance including certification and training of drivers regarding persons with special needs, development of a disciplinary plan including additional training, and a requirement that 1% of all taxi vehicles be accessible. These elements are essential to ensuring the independence of residents with disabilities.

DOT is the City of Alexandria's paratransit program for persons with disabilities who are not able to use fixed-route public transportation due to their disability. DOT has helped individuals maintain, and in some cases, gain independence. DOT serves as an extension of public transportation available to Alexandria residents by using taxicabs and wheelchair accessible vans. DOT service is provided curbside with pre-arranged pickup locations and scheduled pickup and drop off times. Eligibility to use DOT is based on the eligibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and service is available throughout the City of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax Counties, and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

At this time, DOT service is not available to Washington, DC or Maryland. Persons with disabilities needing paratransit travel to the District of Columbia or Maryland can use MetroAccess, which is the regional ADA paratransit service.

In a continuing effort to improve the program, the ACPD partnered with DOT and supported its budget request of \$30,000 for an upgrade to its Information Technology program. Future efforts could include a consideration to expand services outside of Northern Virginia.

The Alexandria Transit Company operates DASH, which serves as the City of Alexandria's bus system. All DASH buses are wheelchair accessible and there are a number of "talking buses" which identify stops, intersections, and points of interest, among other things, for persons with visual impairments. DASH does not have a reduced fare for persons with disabilities and it does not accept the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority's ("WMATA") disability fare flash pass.

The ACPD believes that DASH should adopt the use of the WMATA Senior and Disabled ID card and have reduced DASH fares for these populations, as do all other transportation programs in jurisdictions within the WMATA region. This is an issue in which the ACPD's Transportation Committee has taken an interest and will work toward making the fare transfer between WMATA's Metro and MetroBus seamless, as is the case with other transportation systems in Northern Virginia. And perhaps most importantly, ACPD will encourage all transportation systems in Alexandria to actively seek input and recommendations from persons with disabilities.

### Medical and Therapeutic Services

Increasingly, in the City of Alexandria and all across the country, persons with disabilities are struggling with accessible and affordable medical insurance and services. It is clear that the soaring costs of health care combined with low incomes and limited or no insurance coverage prevent many people with disabilities from seeking and receiving adequate health care. In addition, both physical and attitudinal barriers prevent many persons with physical and sensory disabilities from obtaining basic health care services.

Specific problems and concerns identified by respondents included difficulty obtaining essential durable medical equipment; lack of information on accessible doctor's offices and health care facilities; the need for in-home support of caregivers for persons with disabilities; lack of transportation; and lack of money for dental care, prescriptions, and other services not covered by Medicare.

While some medical and therapeutic services can be accessed and obtained through Medicare or Medicaid, neither of these programs should be considered to be comprehensive sources of service. The Department of Human Services and other state and local agencies have limited funds to purchase medications on an emergency basis and a few pharmaceutical companies offer reduced cost programs for specified medications, but again the barrier seems to be gaining knowledge of and access to these programs.

Some medical and emergency dental care can be accessed through free or reduced cost clinics for persons with disabilities who have low incomes. The Alexandria Health Department offers free health and dental care to all income eligible persons with disabilities.

Improvement in access to medical and therapeutic services is often determined to be a legislative issue related to Medicare and Medicaid, but all remedies should be considered and explored to solve this crisis. It is important that goals be set and reached to develop awareness and understanding of the needs of persons with disabilities in the medical community and to increase outreach to ensure persons with disabilities are aware of and have access to available medical and therapeutic services tailored to their needs.

Two respondents addressed one area of special note – hearing aids. One noted that there is a serious problem with the fact that there are not any dispensers in Northern Virginia who will dispense hearing aids for children covered by Medicaid and Unicare. Another identified as being gainfully employed with the Federal government and having a profound hearing loss, but could function well with hearing aids and other amplifying technology. However, the concern was that if the hearing loss worsened, hearing aids would no longer be beneficial. Planning ahead, the person noted that they were reading about services for persons with disabilities on the Internet, but still did not know what kind of services might be available. The person's recommendation was that the City better inform the public of services that are available.

### Accessible Housing

This theme is constant in previous and the most recent Needs Assessment undertaken by the ACPD. Repeatedly it has been demonstrated that affordable, accessible housing is one of the top priorities in Alexandria for persons with disabilities. A lack of accessible, affordable housing not only in the City of Alexandria, but also in the neighboring jurisdictions, is a major fundamental barrier to independent living for persons with disabilities. Other barriers include a lack of readily available information on the availability and location of accessible housing and available programs for accessibility modifications.

The City's Office of Housing's Residential Assistance Modification Program ("RAMP") has actively worked to modify and rehabilitate existing housing to meet the accessibility needs of residents. ACPD continues to make referrals to the program, but will do more to promote and inform persons with disabilities that RAMP is actively seeking to assist persons with accessibility and modifications needs.

The City of Alexandria also has a Home Rehabilitation Loan Program whereby qualifying homeowners can receive funds to make accessibility modifications to their homes. Furthermore, nonprofit organizations in the City have programs to rehabilitate or install accessibility improvements in the homes of qualified applicants. Real property tax and rent relief programs are also available to persons with disabilities who meet certain criteria, but these programs are poorly publicized and as a result the impact of these programs is minimal. Improved awareness is needed.

The ACPD will continue to advocate to City Council and the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority on behalf of persons with disabilities about the dire and critical need of affordable, accessible housing in the City. In addition, the ACPD can strive to increase collaboration and coordination with area agencies and nonprofit organizations to address the critical need Alexandria citizens have for ramps and other home and apartment modifications.

#### Implications for ACPD Action

The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities will continue its work on behalf of persons with disabilities in Alexandria to remove all remaining physical and attitudinal barriers and to ensure equal access and full integration to all programs, services, and activities. In addition, the ACPD will encourage the community to maintain a commitment to persons with disabilities and to ensure an environment that promotes equal opportunity and independence.

The ACPD recognizes that it will need to do more to strengthen and improve awareness and actively seek to increase programs and services for persons with disabilities in the three specific areas identified in this report and other areas of concern. One of the ways the ACPD can initiate and promote awareness is to develop and implement an effective outreach strategy. This step can include developing and distributing informational materials that will identify City government programs and services available for persons with disabilities. In addition, a similar listing of service providers and disability-related nonprofit organizations in the City would also assist in providing much needed informational resources for Alexandrians with disabilities.

It should be noted that the ACPD is in the beginning stages of developing a web site presence to serve as an informational resource on the Commission, provide awareness to the community of the City's disability resources coordinator, and other disability-related services and issues.

On behalf of Alexandrians with disabilities, the ACPD will continue to advocate, challenge, and partner for further progress for people with disabilities to live, work, be independent, and enjoy the benefits of full access to community life in the City of Alexandria. Reaching these goals will allow the ACPD to function as both a direct resource for persons with disabilities in the City and as a conduit for identifying gaps in services.

#### Implications for State-Level Action

It is vitally important for the Commonwealth to assist local jurisdictions with its efforts to improve services and programs for its residents with disabilities by working together to

discuss solutions to resolve the identified unmet needs in the Needs Assessment surveys. An increase in, or in some cases a development and implementation of, the needed services and programs for persons with disabilities are important for the Commonwealth to recognize. It is also essential to note here that this must be carried out in the communities.

The ACPD also strongly encourages and recommends that an improved survey questionnaire be developed so that more detailed and meaningful information on the local needs of persons with disabilities can be determined. Furthermore, the Commonwealth should strive to ensure additional funding and resources, training and informational materials, and take the lead to encourage dialogue amongst the Disability Services Boards. This would serve as a necessary step in building the foundation and strengthening the structure already in place. The DSBs are in the communities and the state should do more to use them to help build relationships with persons with disabilities in the community and statewide.

Alexandrians with physical and sensory disabilities need and deserve a better informational and referral system and service to gain access to the programs and services to meet their needs with transportation, medical and therapeutic services, and housing. The first step can begin with the ACPD, in conjunction with the City and State, doing a better job of eliminating the confusing and oftentimes unknown network of service delivery systems.

Persons with physical and sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria experience significant difficulties in identifying and accessing available services and resources that could help address their many unmet needs. The ACPD can build on its partnerships with City agencies, boards, commissions, service providers, and others to pool resources to begin addressing these critical unmet needs of persons with physical and sensory disabilities.

**The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you would like to request this material in an alternative format, please e-mail [mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov) or call 703-519-3357, TTY 711.**

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic area: Alexandria city, Virginia

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
<b>Total population</b> .....	<b>128,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>	<b>128,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			<b>Total population</b> .....	18,882	14.7
Male.....	61,974	48.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	1,829	1.4
Female.....	66,309	51.7	Mexican.....	1,116	0.9
Under 5 years.....	7,962	6.2	Puerto Rican.....	280	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	5,953	4.6	Cuban.....	15,657	12.2
10 to 14 years.....	4,722	3.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	109,401	85.3
15 to 19 years.....	4,739	3.7	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	68,889	53.7
20 to 24 years.....	9,919	7.7	White alone.....		
25 to 34 years.....	32,571	25.4	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>128,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>
35 to 44 years.....	23,186	18.1	<b>Total population</b> .....	126,382	98.5
45 to 54 years.....	17,641	13.8	In households.....	61,889	48.2
55 to 59 years.....	6,117	4.8	Householder.....	19,905	15.5
60 to 64 years.....	3,868	3.0	Spouse.....	24,087	18.8
65 to 74 years.....	5,695	4.4	Child.....	18,996	14.8
75 to 84 years.....	4,204	3.3	Own child under 18 years.....	7,836	6.1
85 years and over.....	1,706	1.3	Other relatives.....	1,948	1.5
Median age (years).....	34.4	(X)	Under 18 years.....	12,665	9.9
18 years and over.....	106,746	83.2	Nonrelatives.....	3,566	2.8
Male.....	51,063	39.8	Unmarried partner.....	1,901	1.5
Female.....	55,683	43.4	In group quarters.....	1,439	1.1
21 years and over.....	103,726	80.9	Institutionalized population.....	462	0.4
62 years and over.....	13,800	10.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....		
65 years and over.....	11,605	9.0	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>	<b>61,889</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Male.....	4,341	3.4	<b>Total households</b> .....	27,749	44.8
Female.....	7,264	5.7	Family households (families).....	11,487	18.6
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	19,905	32.2
One race.....	122,800	95.7	Married-couple family.....	7,666	12.4
White.....	76,702	59.8	With own children under 18 years.....	5,700	9.2
Black or African American.....	28,915	22.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	3,100	5.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	355	0.3	With own children under 18 years.....	34,140	55.2
Asian.....	7,249	5.7	Nonfamily households.....	26,890	43.4
Asian Indian.....	1,629	1.3	Householder living alone.....	4,217	6.8
Chinese.....	912	0.7	Householder 65 years and over.....		
Filipino.....	1,107	0.9	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	12,673	20.5
Japanese.....	296	0.2	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	8,553	13.8
Korean.....	1,335	1.0	Average household size.....	2.04	(X)
Vietnamese.....	510	0.4	Average family size.....	2.87	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	1,460	1.1	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>	<b>64,251</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	112	0.1	<b>Total housing units</b> .....	61,889	96.3
Native Hawaiian.....	24	-	Occupied housing units.....	2,362	3.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	25	-	Vacant housing units.....		
Samoan.....	22	-	For seasonal, recreational, or	523	0.8
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	41	-	occasional use.....		
Some other race.....	9,467	7.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.0	(X)
Two or more races.....	5,483	4.3	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.4	(X)
<b>Race alone or in combination with one or more other races:</b> <sup>3</sup>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>	<b>61,889</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White.....	80,473	62.7	<b>Occupied housing units</b> .....	24,745	40.0
Black or African American.....	30,769	24.0	Owner-occupied housing units.....	37,144	60.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	946	0.7	Renter-occupied housing units.....		
Asian.....	8,606	6.7	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.03	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	282	0.2	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.05	(X)
Some other race.....	12,988	10.1			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

**Table DP-2. Profile of Selected Social Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic area: Alexandria city, Virginia

[Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
<b>SCHOOL ENROLLMENT</b>			<b>NATIVITY AND PLACE OF BIRTH</b>		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school.....	26,509	100.0	Total population.....	128,283	100.0
Nursery school, preschool.....	2,078	7.8	Native.....	95,683	74.6
Kindergarten.....	1,297	4.9	Born in United States.....	93,128	72.6
Elementary school (grades 1-8).....	8,594	32.4	State of residence.....	27,840	21.7
High school (grades 9-12).....	4,244	16.0	Different state.....	65,288	50.9
College or graduate school.....	10,296	38.8	Born outside United States.....	2,555	2.0
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>			Foreign born.....	32,600	25.4
Population 25 years and over.....	95,730	100.0	Entered 1990 to March 2000.....	18,932	14.8
Less than 9th grade.....	6,282	6.6	Naturalized citizen.....	9,248	7.2
9th to 12th grade, no diploma.....	6,315	6.6	Not a citizen.....	23,352	18.2
High school graduate (includes equivalency).....	12,115	12.7	<b>REGION OF BIRTH OF FOREIGN BORN</b>		
Some college, no degree.....	14,823	15.5	Total (excluding born at sea).....	32,600	100.0
Associate degree.....	4,213	4.4	Europe.....	2,790	8.6
Bachelor's degree.....	28,272	29.5	Asia.....	8,059	24.7
Graduate or professional degree.....	23,710	24.8	Africa.....	7,665	23.5
Percent high school graduate or higher.....	86.8	(X)	Oceania.....	62	0.2
Percent bachelor's degree or higher.....	54.3	(X)	Latin America.....	13,557	41.6
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>			Northern America.....	467	1.4
Population 15 years and over.....	109,660	100.0	<b>LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME</b>		
Never married.....	42,714	39.0	Population 5 years and over.....	120,272	100.0
Now married, except separated.....	47,239	43.1	English only.....	84,234	70.0
Separated.....	3,109	2.8	Language other than English.....	36,038	30.0
Widowed.....	5,031	4.6	Speak English less than "very well".....	17,163	14.3
Female.....	4,174	3.8	Spanish.....	17,368	14.4
Divorced.....	11,567	10.5	Speak English less than "very well".....	10,313	8.6
Female.....	6,855	6.3	Other Indo-European languages.....	7,523	6.3
<b>GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS</b>			Speak English less than "very well".....	2,322	1.9
Grandparent living in household with one or more own grandchildren under 18 years.....	1,573	100.0	Asian and Pacific Island languages.....	4,092	3.4
Grandparent responsible for grandchildren.....	622	39.5	Speak English less than "very well".....	2,010	1.7
<b>VETERAN STATUS</b>			<b>ANCESTRY (single or multiple)</b>		
Civilian population 18 years and over ..	104,890	100.0	Total population.....	128,283	100.0
Civilian veterans.....	11,828	11.3	Total ancestries reported.....	139,758	108.9
<b>DISABILITY STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION</b>			Arab.....	1,979	1.5
Population 5 to 20 years.....	16,234	100.0	Czech <sup>1</sup> .....	813	0.6
With a disability.....	1,405	8.7	Danish.....	514	0.4
Population 21 to 64 years.....	90,216	100.0	Dutch.....	1,327	1.0
With a disability.....	12,084	13.4	English.....	13,465	10.5
Percent employed.....	65.9	(X)	French (except Basque) <sup>1</sup> .....	2,762	2.2
No disability.....	78,132	86.6	French Canadian <sup>1</sup> .....	688	0.5
Percent employed.....	83.0	(X)	German.....	14,355	11.2
Population 65 years and over.....	10,486	100.0	Greek.....	629	0.5
With a disability.....	4,070	38.8	Hungarian.....	729	0.6
<b>RESIDENCE IN 1995</b>			Irish <sup>1</sup> .....	14,638	11.4
Population 5 years and over.....	120,272	100.0	Italian.....	5,885	4.6
Same house in 1995.....	44,100	36.7	Lithuanian.....	453	0.4
Different house in the U.S. in 1995.....	64,796	53.9	Norwegian.....	1,256	1.0
Same county.....	18,747	15.6	Polish.....	3,048	2.4
Different county.....	46,049	38.3	Portuguese.....	292	0.2
Same state.....	19,941	16.6	Russian.....	1,665	1.3
Different state.....	26,108	21.7	Scotch-Irish.....	2,581	2.0
Elsewhere in 1995.....	11,376	9.5	Scottish.....	3,255	2.5
			Slovak.....	479	0.4
			Subsaharan African.....	8,500	6.6
			Swedish.....	1,323	1.0
			Swiss.....	462	0.4
			Ukrainian.....	405	0.3
			United States or American.....	3,904	3.0
			Welsh.....	967	0.8
			West Indian (excluding Hispanic groups).....	729	0.6
			Other ancestries.....	52,655	41.0

-Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>The data represent a combination of two ancestries shown separately in Summary File 3. Czech includes Czechoslovakian. French includes Alsatian. French Canadian includes Acadian/Cajun. Irish includes Celtic.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.

Alexandria city, Virginia - QT-P21. Disability Status by Sex: 2000

**QT-P21. Disability Status by Sex: 2000**

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data

Geographic Area: **Alexandria city, Virginia**

NOTE: Data based on a sample except in P3, P4, H3, and H4. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, definitions, and count corrections see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/expsf3.htm>.

Disability status of the civilian noninstitutional population	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Population 5 years and over</b>	<b>116,936</b>	<b>55,891</b>	<b>61,045</b>
With a disability	17,559	8,315	9,244
Percent with a disability	15.0	14.9	15.1
<b>Population 5 to 15 years</b>	<b>11,481</b>	<b>5,890</b>	<b>5,591</b>
With a disability	529	309	220
Percent with a disability	4.6	5.2	3.9
Sensory	71	55	16
Physical	109	68	41
Mental	354	236	118
Self-care	148	75	73
<b>Population 16 to 64 years</b>	<b>94,969</b>	<b>45,980</b>	<b>48,989</b>
With a disability	12,960	6,642	6,318
Percent with a disability	13.6	14.4	12.9
Sensory	1,330	733	597
Physical	3,149	1,369	1,780
Mental	2,208	989	1,219
Self-care	816	295	521
Going outside the home	5,182	2,458	2,724
Employment disability	8,637	4,642	3,995
<b>Population 65 years and over</b>	<b>10,486</b>	<b>4,021</b>	<b>6,465</b>
With a disability	4,070	1,364	2,706
Percent with a disability	38.8	33.9	41.9
Sensory	1,138	476	662
Physical	2,842	942	1,900
Mental	1,001	322	679
Self-care	802	281	521
Going outside the home	1,984	572	1,412
<b>Population 18 to 34 years</b>	<b>42,667</b>	<b>20,446</b>	<b>22,221</b>
With a disability	4,812	2,611	2,201
Percent enrolled in college or graduate school	16.1	16.9	15.3
Percent not enrolled and with a bachelor's degree or higher	19.4	16.5	22.8
No disability	37,855	17,835	20,020
Percent enrolled in college or graduate school	16.5	15.3	17.6
Percent not enrolled and with a bachelor's degree or higher	47.8	45.7	49.7
<b>Population 21 to 64 years</b>	<b>90,216</b>	<b>43,750</b>	<b>46,466</b>
With a disability	12,084	6,195	5,889
Percent employed	65.9	68.8	62.8
No disability	78,132	37,555	40,577
Percent employed	83.0	87.4	78.8

(X) Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 3, Matrices P42, PCT26, PCT27, PCT28, PCT29, PCT30, PCT31, PCT32, and PCT33.

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# Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities 2006 Needs Assessment Survey



The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) conducts a survey every three years to develop ways to assist residents with physical and/or sensory disabilities. This survey will be used by the ACPD to develop a Needs Assessment Report. The report will help to determine what areas need funding and resources to improve the independence of people who have physical and sensory disabilities in the City of Alexandria.

If you feel you have a physical and/or sensory disability, have a family member or serve people with a physical and/or sensory disability, please take the time to fill out the following survey and mail this survey to the address below. Or you may fax the survey to 703-838-0886. The survey is also available online at [http://alexandriava.gov/dhs/acpd\\_assessment.php](http://alexandriava.gov/dhs/acpd_assessment.php).

**Return survey no later than December 31, 2005.**

**Please answer all questions on the front and back of this form. Comments are welcome.  
Please attach a separate sheet for comments.**

Person filling out this survey:

Person with a Disability  Family Member  Service Provider

Where do you or person(s) with a disability live?

City of Alexandria  Other

Your age, or the age of person(s) with a disability: 0-22  23-59  60 and over

Disability: (Check all that apply):

ADD/ADHD  Autism Spectrum  Blind / Vision Impairment

Brain Injury  Chronic Medical  Deaf / Hard of Hearing

Learning Disability  Physical Disability  Speech Impairment

Other Disability (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternative formats will be provided upon request.** For information, please contact Mike Hatfield at 703-838-0711, TTY 703-836-1493, or by e-mail to [mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mike.hatfield@alexandriava.gov). Please allow 5 business days to process your request.



ACPD  
2525 Mt. Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301

Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities  
2525 Mt. Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301

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Please check all that apply in the following two categories.

<b>Availability of Services</b>	<b>Service Available</b>		<b>Service Needed but Not Available</b>	<b>Service Needed but Too Costly</b>
	<b>o.k.</b>	<b>Not o.k.</b>		
<b>Assistive Technology</b> (Adaptive equipment such as wheelchairs/visual aids/computers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Case Management</b> (Coordinate programs and services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Counseling</b> (Social workers, psychiatrists, rehab counselors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Education</b> (Early Intervention to High School for youth with disabilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Employment Services</b> (Job preparation and job placement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Family Support Services</b> (Counseling/case management to support family members)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Accessible Housing</b> (Accessed without physical barriers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Independent Living Services</b> (As through Centers for Independent Living)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Medical &amp; Therapeutic Services</b> (Accessible, affordable medical insurance & services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Personal Assistance Services</b> (Help with daily living activities like cooking or household management)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Training</b> (For employment or upgrading skills)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Transportation</b> (Accessible for persons with disabilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Unmet Needs for Services</b> (from the perspective of person with a disability)	<b>I have an unmet need for this service and it affects me:</b>		
	<b>Seriously</b>	<b>Moderately</b>	<b>Slightly</b>
<b>Assistive Technology</b> (Adaptive equipment such as wheelchairs/visual aids/computers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Case Management</b> (Coordinate programs and services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Counseling</b> (Social workers, psychiatrists, rehab counselors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Education</b> (Early Intervention to High School for youth with disabilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Employment Services</b> (Job preparation and job placement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Family Support Services</b> (Counseling/case management to support family members)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Accessible Housing</b> (Accessed without physical barriers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Independent Living Services</b> (As through Centers for Independent Living)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Medical &amp; Therapeutic Services</b> (Accessible, affordable medical insurance & services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Personal Assistance Services</b> (Help with daily living activities like cooking or household management)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Training</b> (For employment or upgrading skills)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Transportation</b> (Accessible for persons with disabilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>