

HHS COMMITTEE #2  
April 5, 2010

**MEMORANDUM**

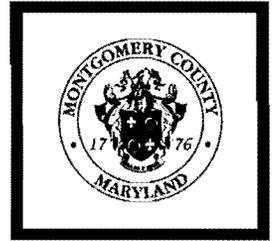
April 1, 2010

TO: Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Update on the Impacts of the Economic Downturn and the Neighborhood Safety Network**

At this session, Uma Ahluwalia, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, will provide the Committee with an update on the impacts of the economic downturn on county residents' need for public assistance with housing, food, medical care, and mental health services and how the Neighborhood Safety Network Initiative has been working to identify those in need and connect them to services. Following Director Ahluwalia's presentation, the Committee will be provided with comments from representatives of the non-profit partners who are assisting with this effort. Director Ahluwalia's presentation is attached at © 1-19.



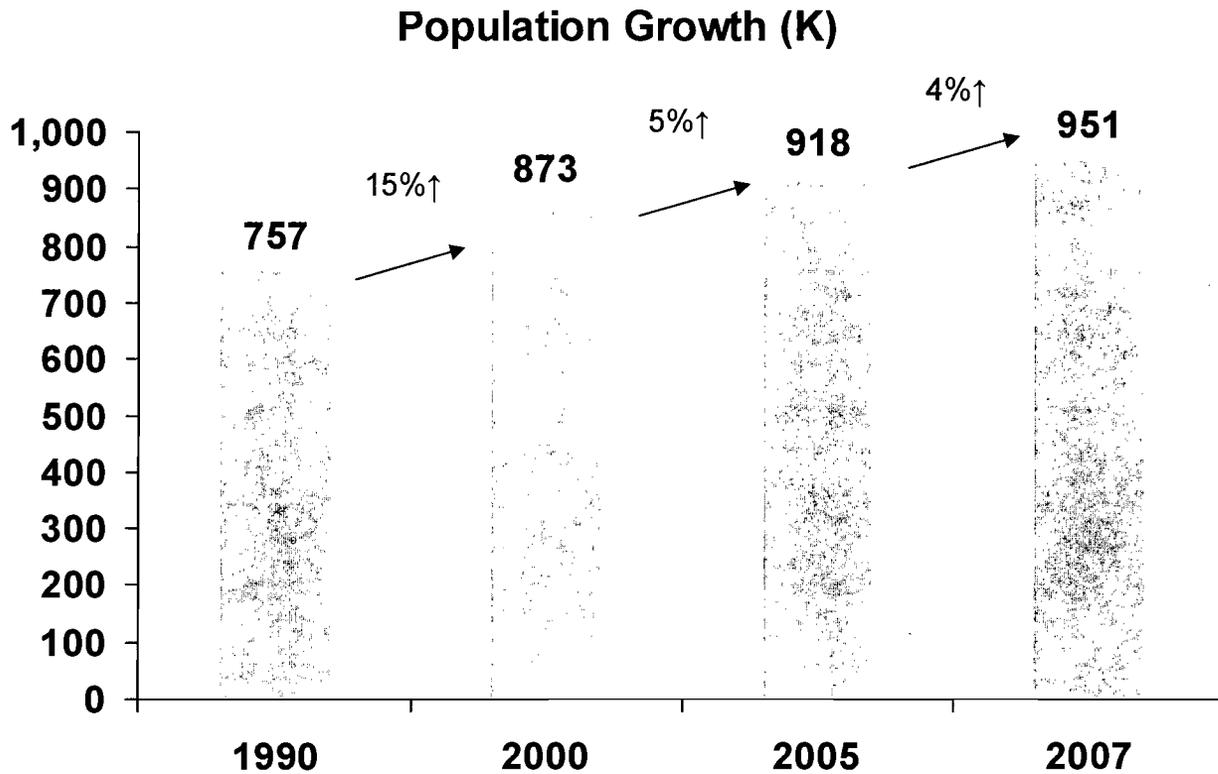
# **Montgomery County: GROWING NEEDS IN A CHANGING COMMUNITY**

**March 2009**

**Montgomery County**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

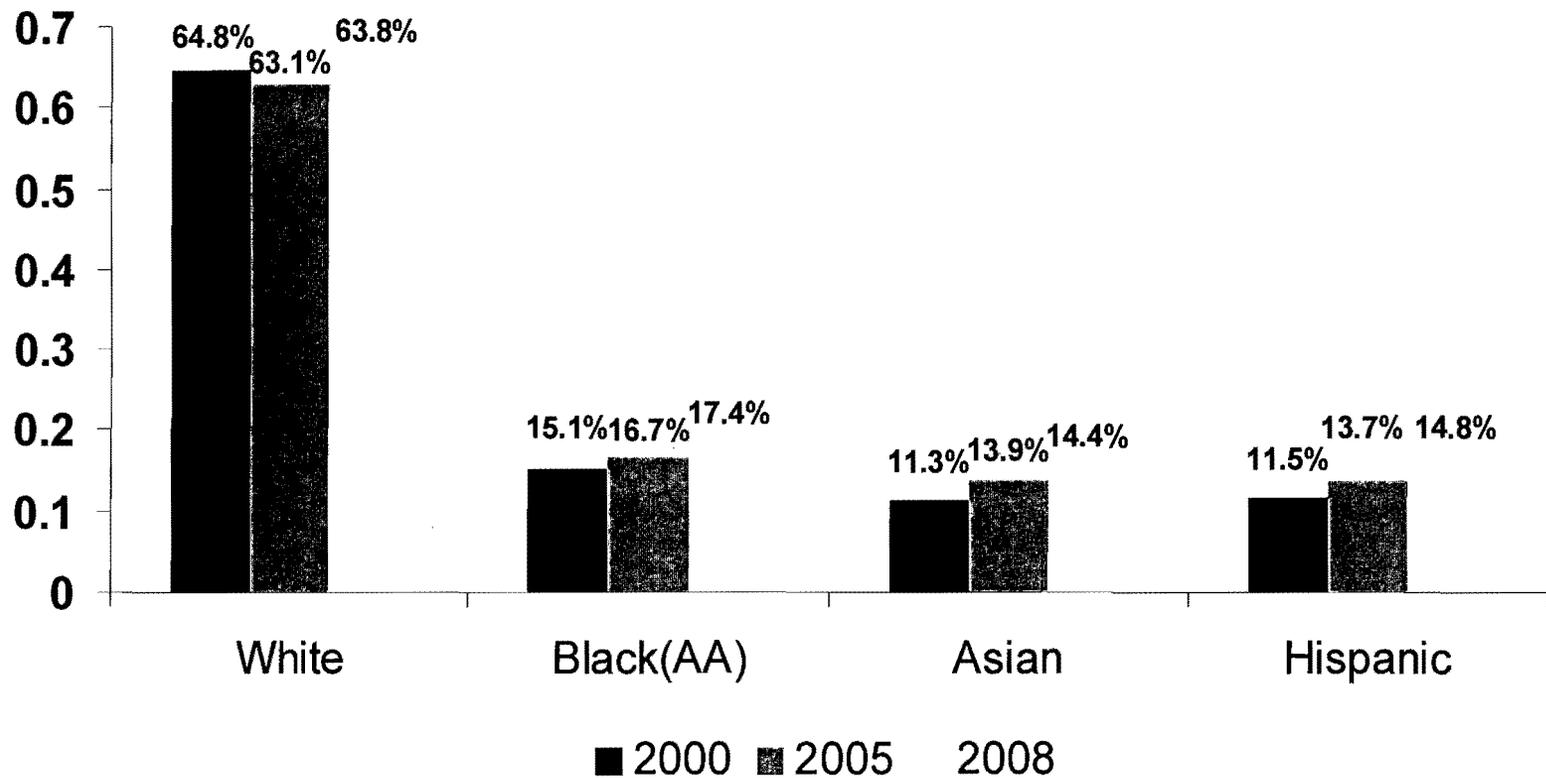
# Montgomery County: A Changing Picture



- Most populous county in Maryland
- Immigration was the largest component of population change since 2000\*

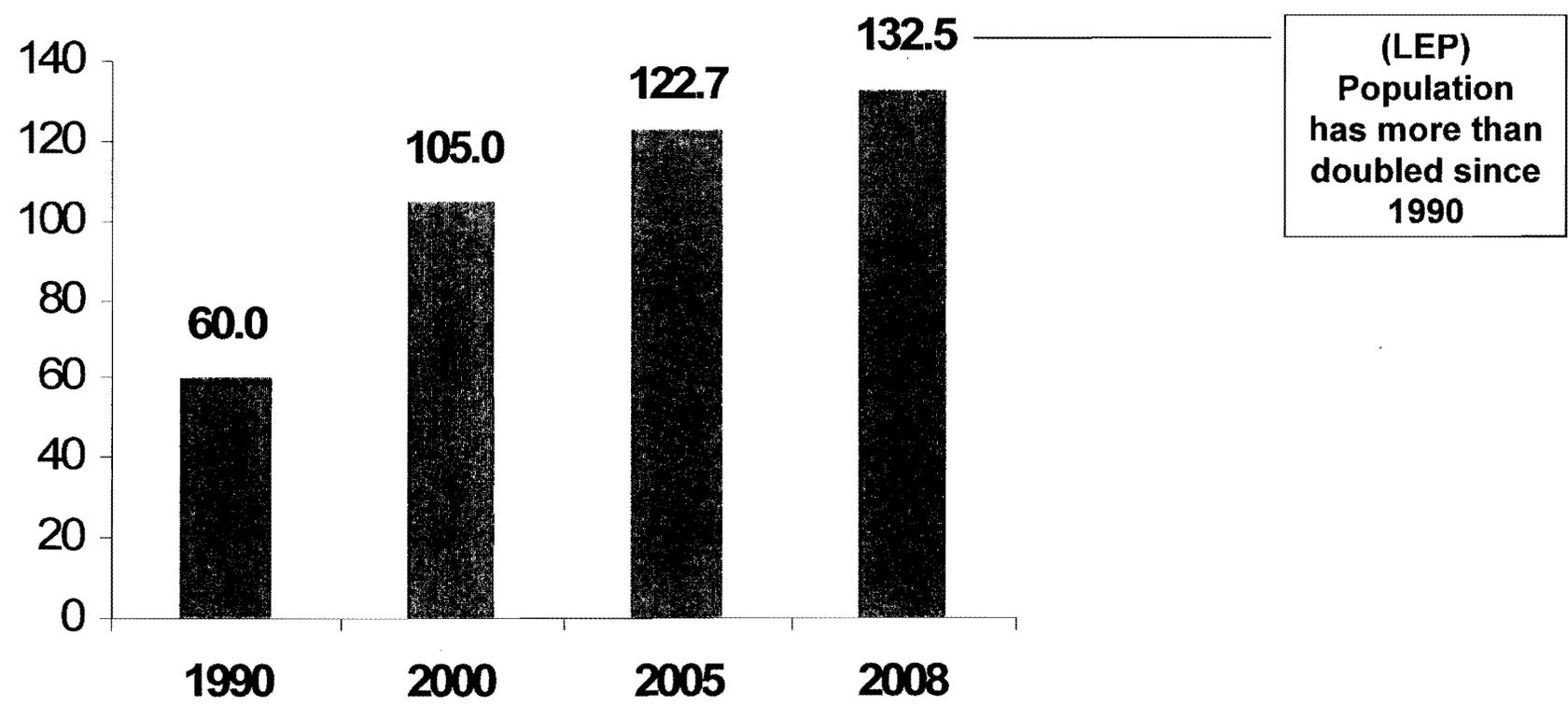
\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder 1990, American Community Survey 2000, 2005 and 2008

# Population Growth Trends: 2000 to 2008



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# Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Population (k)



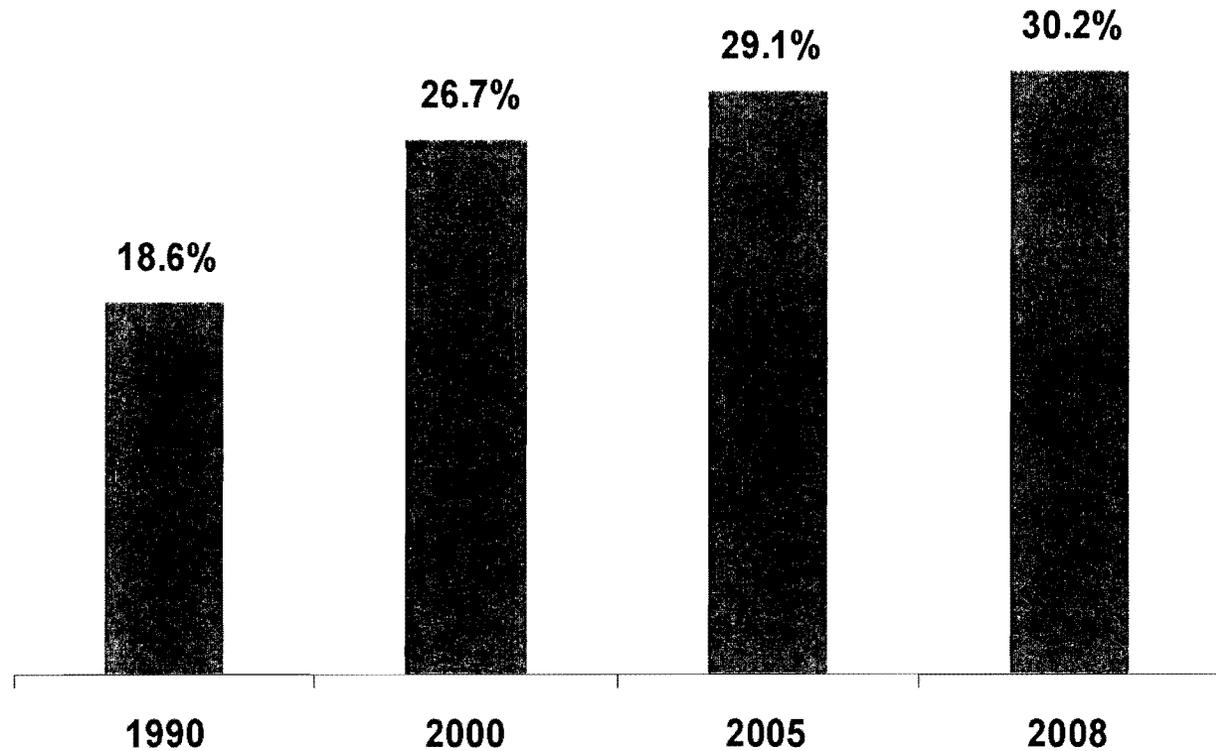
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and American Community Survey 2,000, 2005, 2008.

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# Foreign Born Population Growth 1990 - 2008

**The Foreign Born Population has more than doubled since 1990**

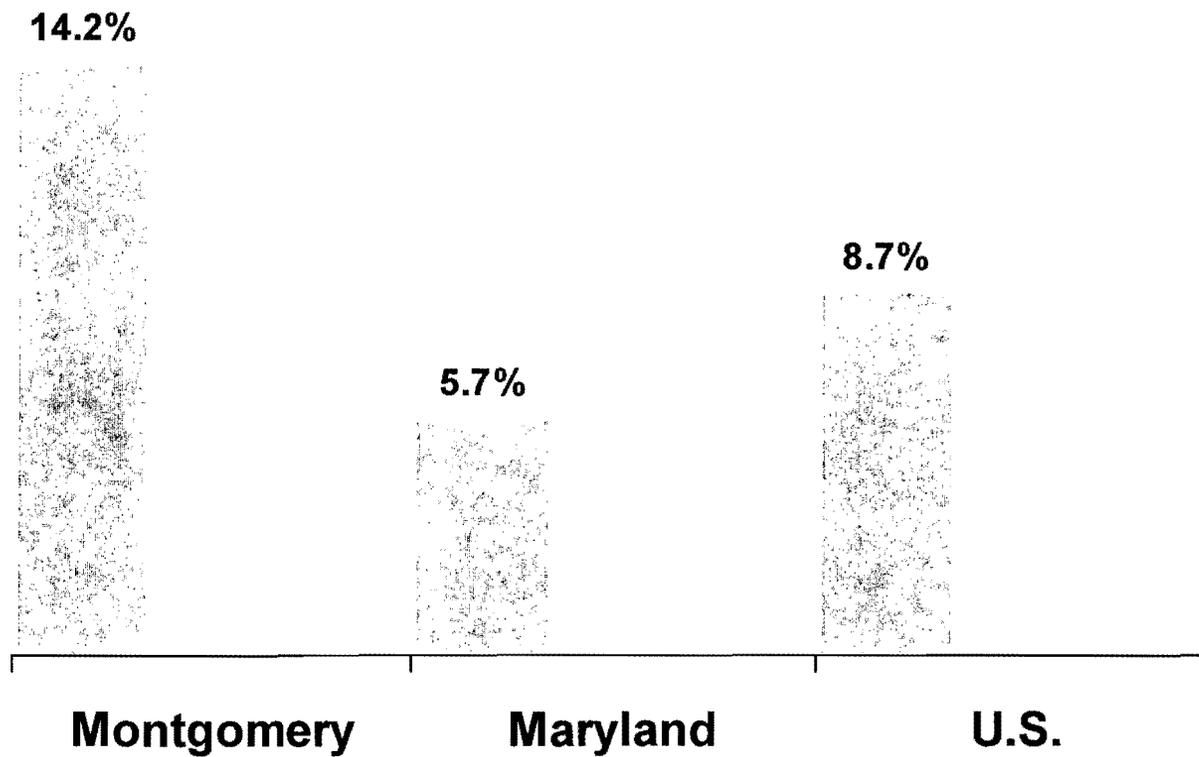
<b>1990</b>	<b>140,000</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>287,407</b>



Source: American Community Survey 2006, 2008 U.S. Census Bureau Census 1990, 2000

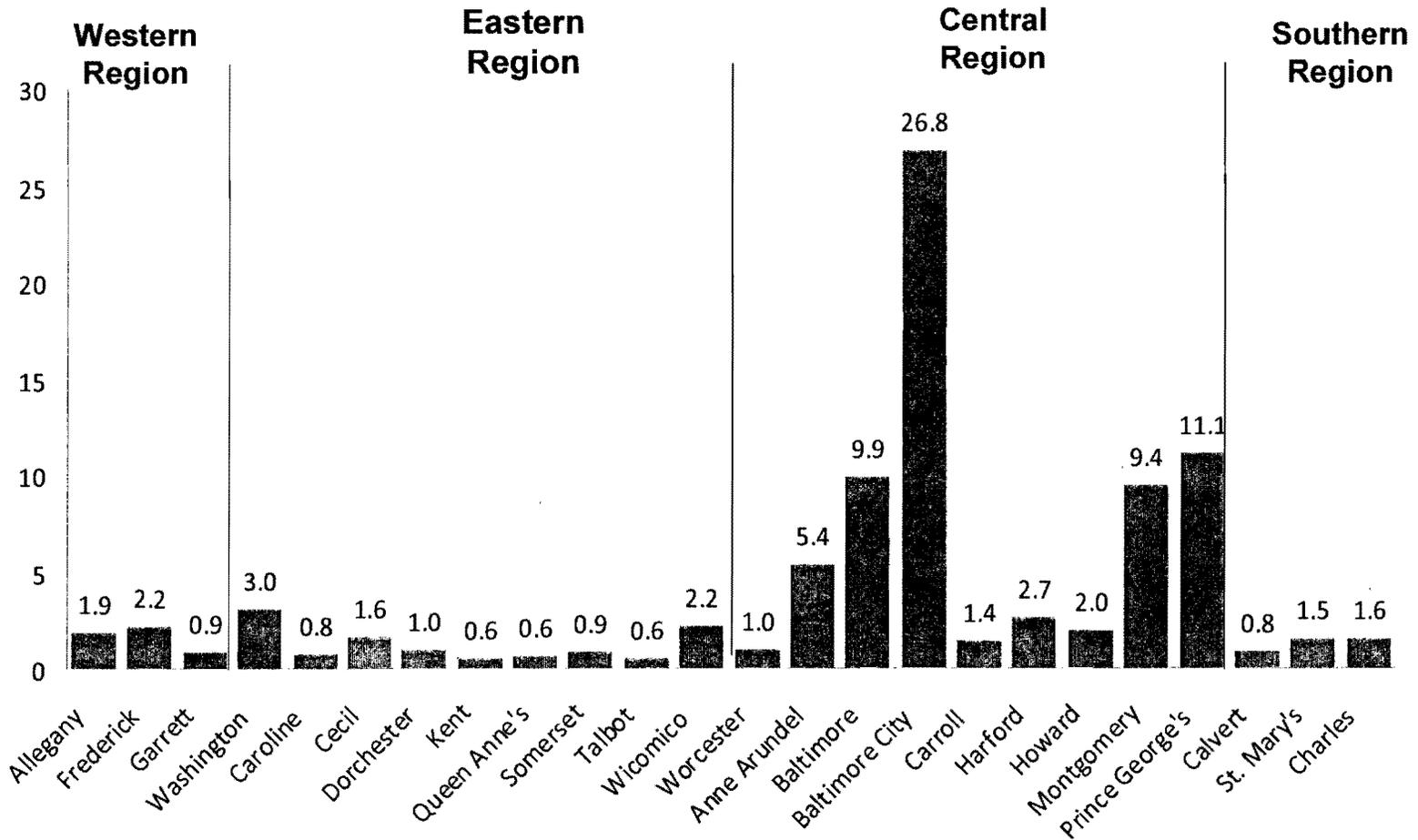
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# Montgomery County: Highest Concentration of LEP Population in MD



Source: American Community Survey 2006, U.S. Census Bureau

# 2009 Number of Maryland Families in Poverty Estimates (K)

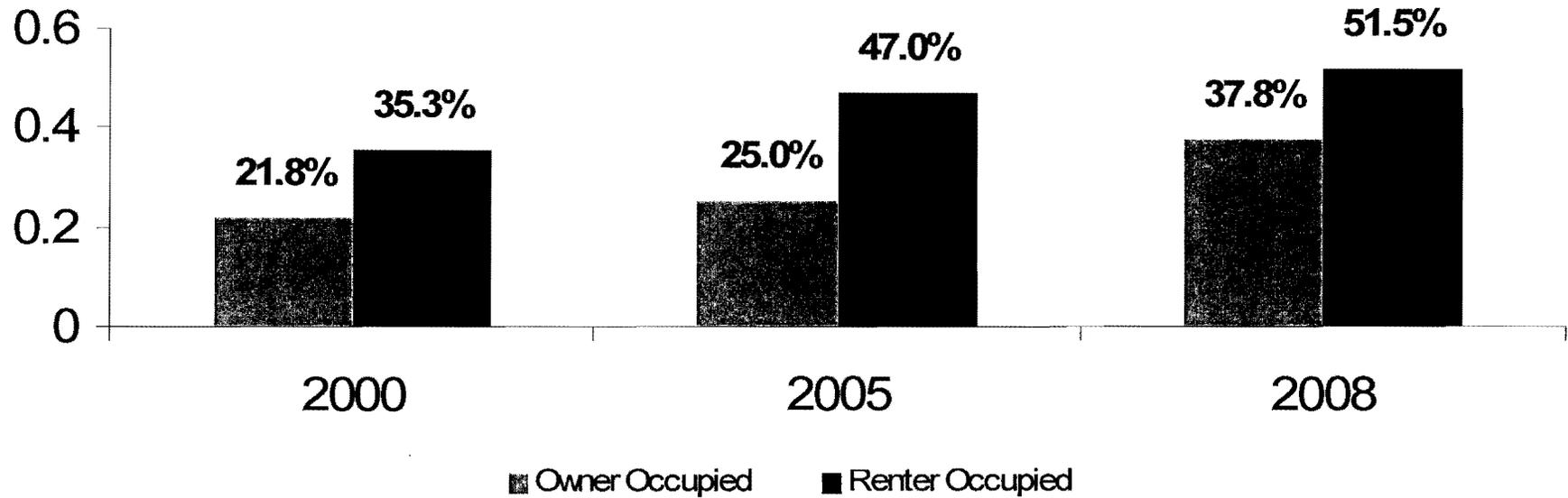


Source: Policy Map, 2009



# Housing Costs

## Percent of Households Spending More than 30% of Income on Housing Costs



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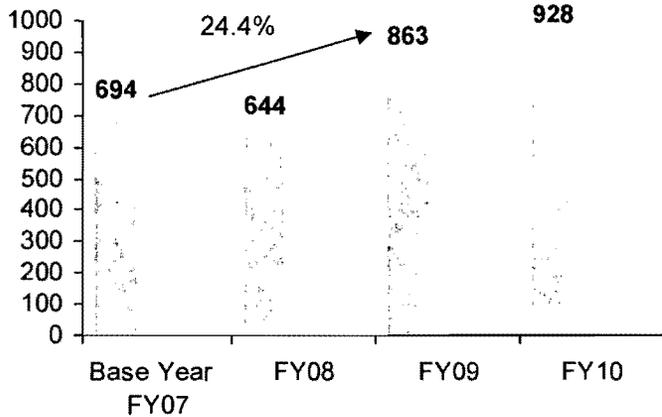


## Public Assistance Needs

- Caseloads have grown every month since FY07 and, as of February 28, 2010, are at a high of:
  - Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA): 928 (33.7% increase)
  - Food Stamps (FS): 18,146 (60% increase); and
  - Medicaid (MA): 38,788 (32.4% increase).
- Total ***applications*** for these programs increased dramatically from FY07 through FY09: TCA by 42.2%; FS by 73.3%; and MA by 17%
- Applications for the first 6 months of FY10 show continued increase in combined application volume of 19% over FY09 volume.

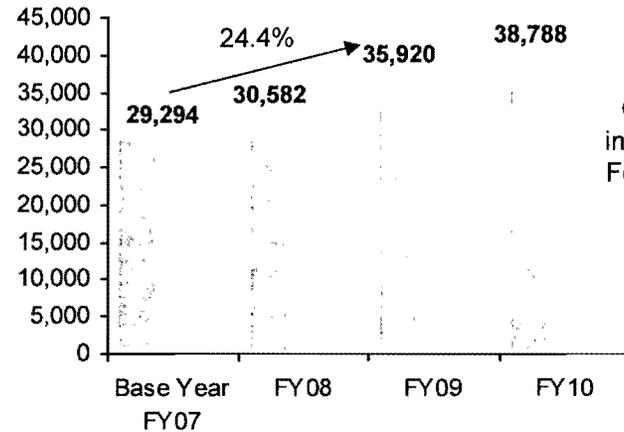
# Caseloads Steady Increase FY07 - FY10 (to date)

**Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA)**



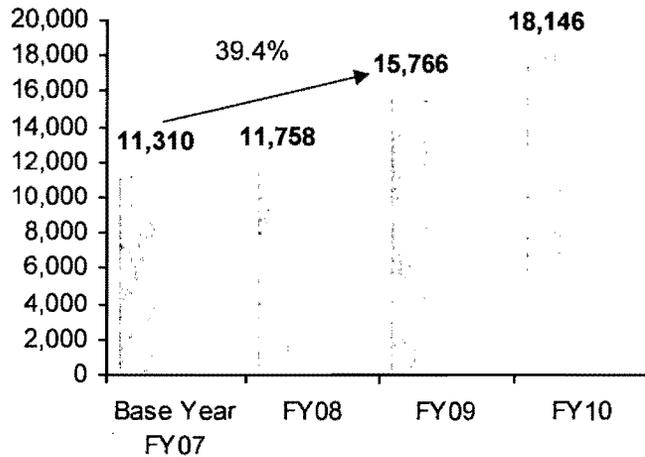
Cumulative increase as of Feb, 28, 2010 of 33.7%

**Medical Assistance (MA)**



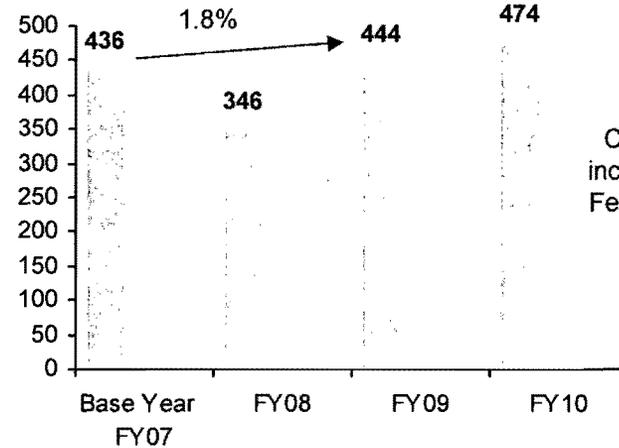
Cumulative increase as of Feb, 28, 2010 of 32.4%

**Food Stamps (FS)**



Cumulative increase as of Feb, 28, 2010 of 60.4%

**Temporary Disability Assistance (TDAP)**



Cumulative increase as of Feb, 28, 2010 of 8.7%

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# Application Volume Continues to Increase Dramatically

	Base Year FY07	FY08	FY09	FY07-FY09 2- year % Increase	FY10 as of Feb 28, 2010	Projected Growth FY10 Over FY09
<b>TCA</b>	4,058	4,746	5,771	<b>42.2%</b>	4,394	<b>14%</b>
<b>FS</b>	13,900	18,322	24,082	<b>73.3%</b>	20,354	<b>27%</b>
<b>MA</b>	23,285	25,795	27,352	<b>17.5%</b>	20,892	<b>15%</b>
<b>TDAP</b>	2,642	2,934	3,495	<b>32.3%</b>	2,548	<b>9%</b>
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>43,885</b>	<b>51,797</b>	<b>60,700</b>	<b>38.3%</b>	<b>48,188</b>	<b>19%</b>





## Heat, Housing and Health Needs

- Home energy assistance recipients grew from 6,840 in FY08 to 8,077 in FY09, an 18% increase. The rate of application intake increased 22% in the first 6 months of FY10 as compared to the first 6 months of FY09.
- All 95 family shelter and all single adult shelter beds continue to be at capacity.
- Emergency Assistance Grants for FY09 increased by 1,084 (18.3%) over the previous year. The increase in demand continues to trend upward in FY10.
- Patient load in Montgomery CARES is currently on a trajectory to hit 26,000 patients this year, a 20% increase over FY09 and a 55% increase over FY08.



## Complexity of Need

- Manna (local food bank) gave free groceries to 24,786 households covering 71,958 individuals since July 2009, a 20% increase so far in FY10 over FY09 and a 59% increase since the beginning of the recession.
- Child welfare neglect cases increased 1383 in FY08 to 1655 in FY09, a 16.5% increase. As of February 28, 886 cases were reported for FY10.
- Mental Health Association's hotline monthly suicide assessments increased 313% between July 2008 and July 2009. So far in FY10, MHA has conducted 684 suicide assessments, an increase of 203 over all of FY09.



# Assessment of NSN Strategy

- Six zip codes had the highest rates of increased evictions, requests for emergency assistance and applications for other HHS services (20874, 20877, 20850, 20904, 20906, 20910/03).
- DHHS recognized that partnerships with non-profits and natural supports are the most productive ways to reach those in need and to build the fabric of support in the communities
- DHHS developed a community organizing and community education effort with IMPACT Silver Spring to change the paradigm for the community's response to neighbors in need.



# Key Components of Project

- Currently, three Neighborhood Safety Center (NSC) sites operate in partnership with non profit agencies (with primary funding from the County and supplemental funding from the non-profits and DHR)
  - Family Services Inc. – Gaithersburg NSC
  - Catholic Charities – Wheaton NSC
  - Mary’s Center – East Silver Spring NSC
- NSC processes include a critical triage function and engaging TANF recipients in service delivery



## Key Components (continued)

- The MC Foundation has provided grant support:
  - \$100,000 to IMPACT Silver Spring's Neighbors Campaign (\$75,000 from The Community Foundation for Montgomery County's Neighbors in Need Montgomery Fund, and \$25,000 from The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region (parent foundation's regional Neighbors in Need Fund))
  - \$45,000 to five small ethnic serving nonprofits to support their participation in the "Neighbor Corps" portion of the Campaign
  - \$25,000 to support Mary's Center's hiring of two community connectors at the Long Branch Neighborhood Service Center.



## Key Components (continued)

- Partners – HHS, Interfaith Works, Impact Silver Spring, City of Gaithersburg, Family Services Agency, Catholic Charities, Mary's Center, Office of Community Partnerships, Emergency Assistance Coalition, small and large non-profits in the identified communities, faith community, and residents in identified zip codes
- Full HHS service integration
- Promise of a new and more responsive neighborhood based service delivery system



# Neighborhood Connections

Non-profit IMPACT has contributed significantly:

- 5,546 door-knocks, with 1,468 one-on-one conversations with residents
- More than 130 door knockers trained (representing 29 countries and speaking 13 different languages)
- 423 residents have participated in 12 Neighbors Exchanges.
- Building stronger neighborhood by nurturing neighborhood based leaders that can connect residents to services and spark mutual support



# NSC Customer Volume

	Gaithersburg	Wheaton	TESS
April 2009	125	5	
May	141	142	
June	140	222	
July	166	230	
August	114	245	
September	98	250	
October	125	263	
November	81	160	
December	90	194	13
January 2010	163	272	108
February	113	160	119
Total	1356	2143	240

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