

# Appalachian Regional Commission Technical Assistance October 27, 2011



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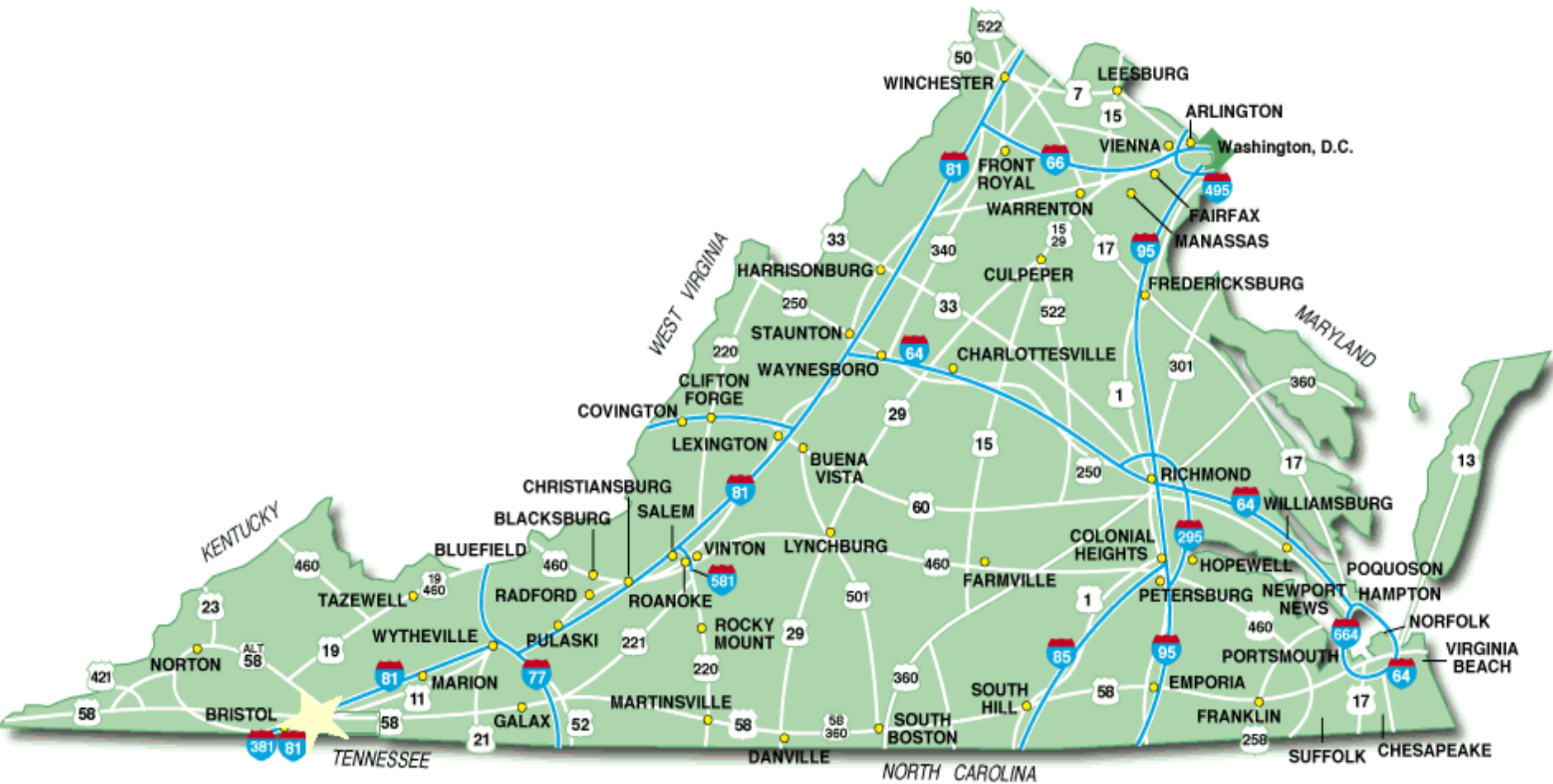
# The Power of Partnerships

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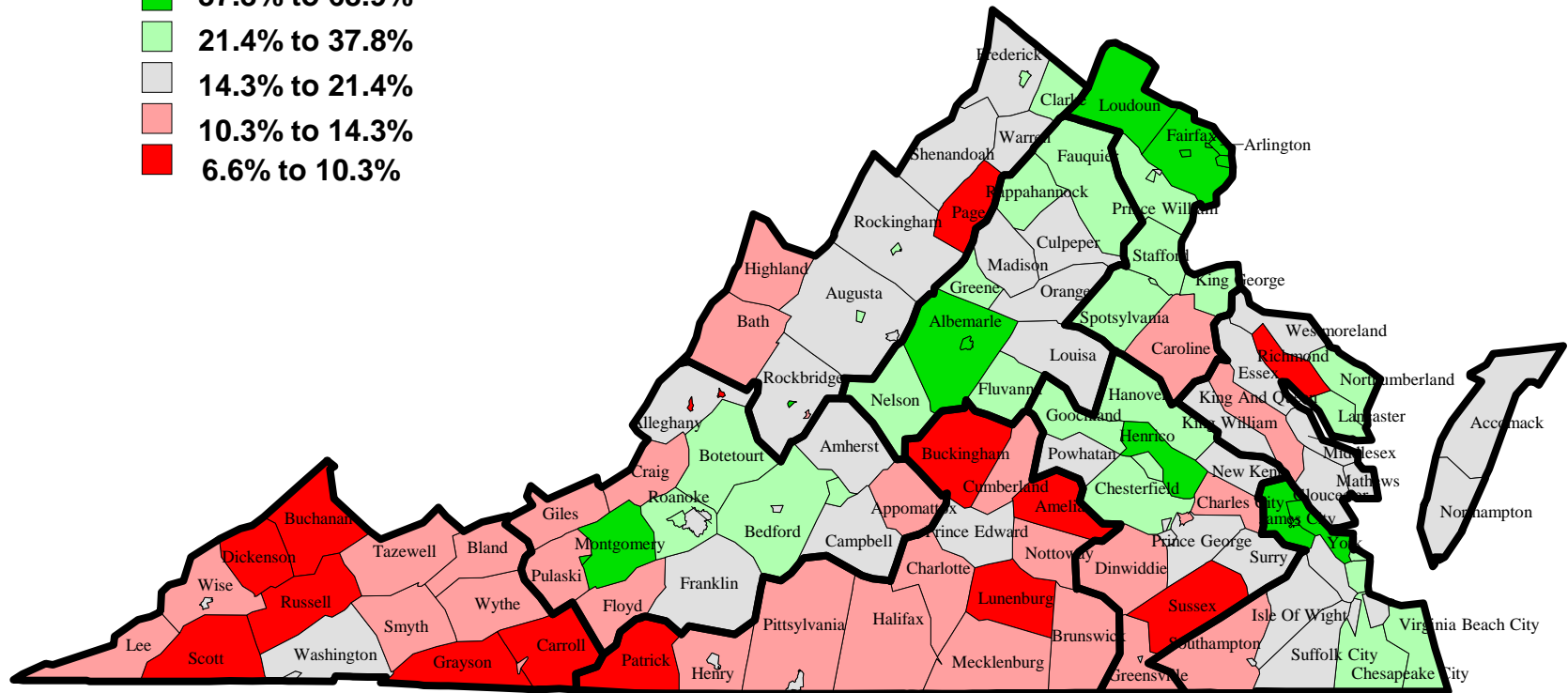
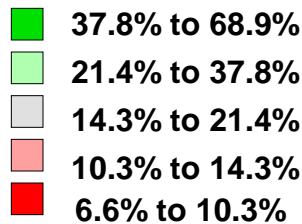
Case Study of the Southwest Virginia Higher  
Education Center 1991 - 2011



# Limited Access to Higher Education... if you live in SW Virginia



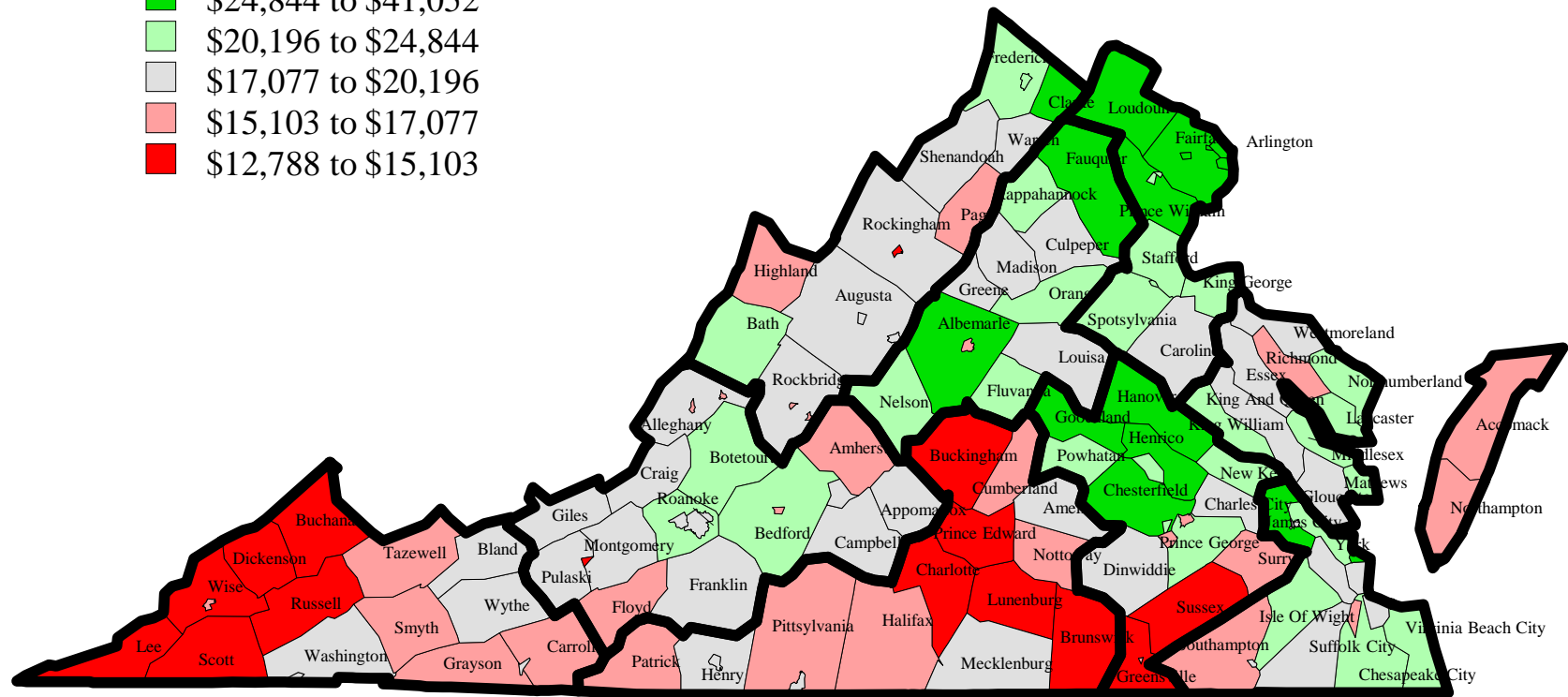
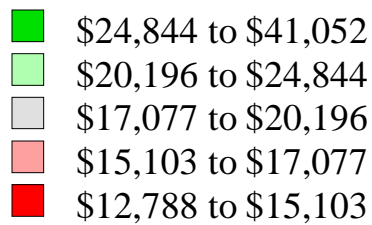
# Percent of 25-64 Year Olds With at Least a Baccalaureate Degree – 2000



Virginia = 31.8%

Data Source: 2000 Census

# Per Capita Personal Income, 1999



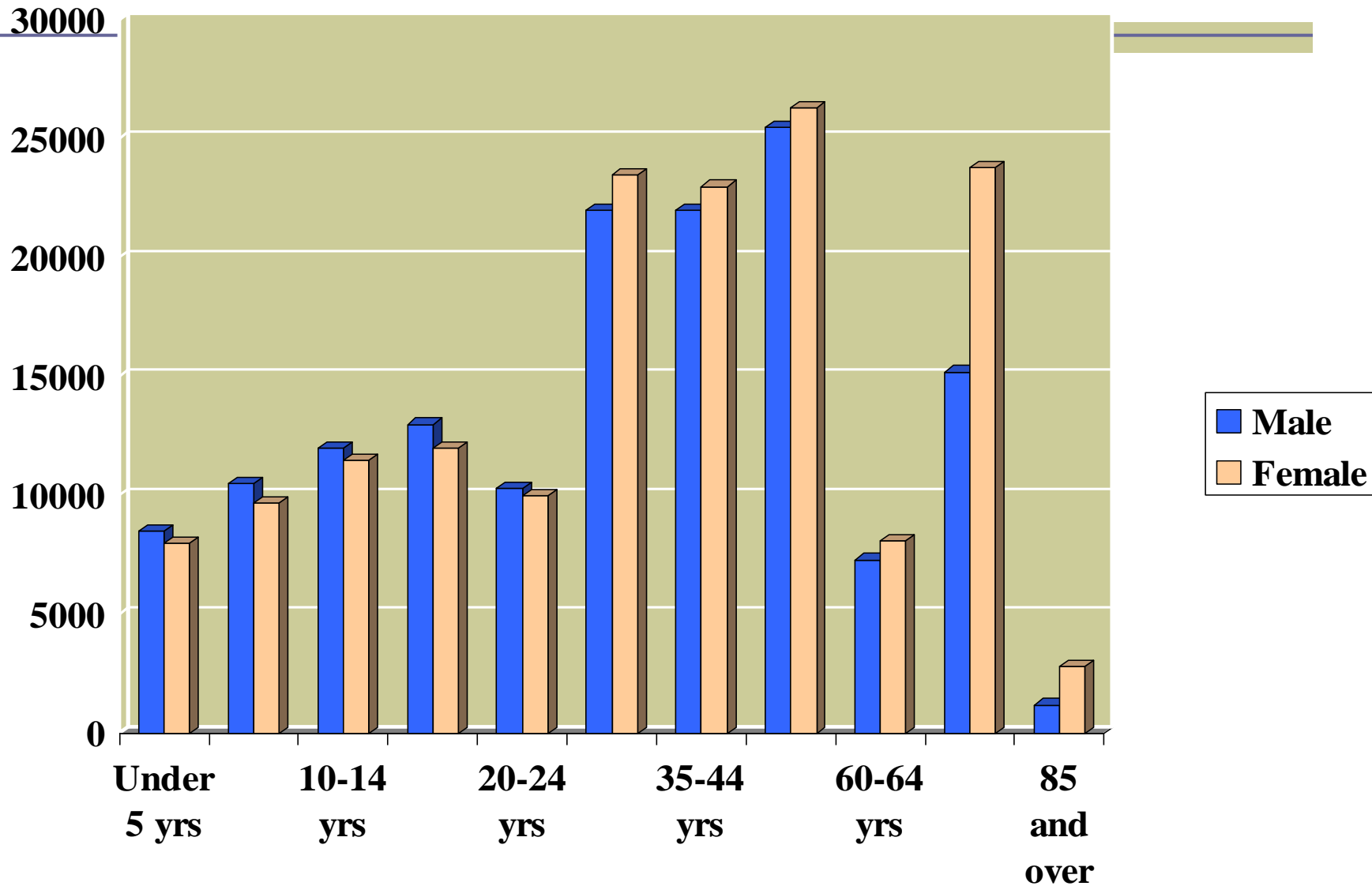
Virginia = \$23,975

# Educational Attainment & Per Capita Income

- Workers with high income typically have the highest rates of educational attainment.
- In 1990, 24.5% of the adult population in Virginia had a bachelors degree or higher. In **SW Virginia** the average was 10.5%.
- In 1990, the average per capita income was \$23,975. In **SW Virginia** the average per capita income was \$15,713.



# Southwest Virginia Population By Age and Sex



# *Lifelong Learning Trends* report that:



- The strongest growth in the past two to three decades has been in part-time enrollment of students over 25 years old.
- Part-time enrollments more than doubled between 1970 and 2000.
- Enrollments of women over the age of 35 has been particularly strong.
- Higher education enrollments at all age levels continue on a long-term growth trajectory.



# What next?

## Regional Needs

- Bachelor's & Graduate Degrees Programs for Adult Students
- Facility
  - Classrooms
  - Conference Space
- Capital & Operating Funds



# Assets

- Political Support –  
Virginia General  
Assembly
- University Partners  
University of Virginia  
Virginia Tech  
Clinch Valley College  
VA Highlands CC
- Graduates of 4  
Community Colleges



# General Assembly Action

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- Established as a State Agency in 1991
- Board of Trustees
  - 5 Citizen members appointed by Governor
  - 2 State Senators and 4 Delegates
  - College Presidents of Partner Institutions
  - State Council for Higher Education in Virginia
  - Virginia Community College System



# Capital Funding

- \$9.9 Million Commonwealth of Virginia
- \$500,000 Appalachian Regional Commission
- Land Virginia Highlands CC



# Agency Goals

- Offer upper-level undergraduate and graduate degree programs, noncredit enrichment courses, and professional development training for “location bound” adult students.
- Provide a conference facility for state, regional, national, and international events.
- Serve as a regional catalyst for the creation of innovative ventures and services (i.e., Heartwood – Artisan Gateway).



# COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PARTNERS Offer 90 Degree Programs



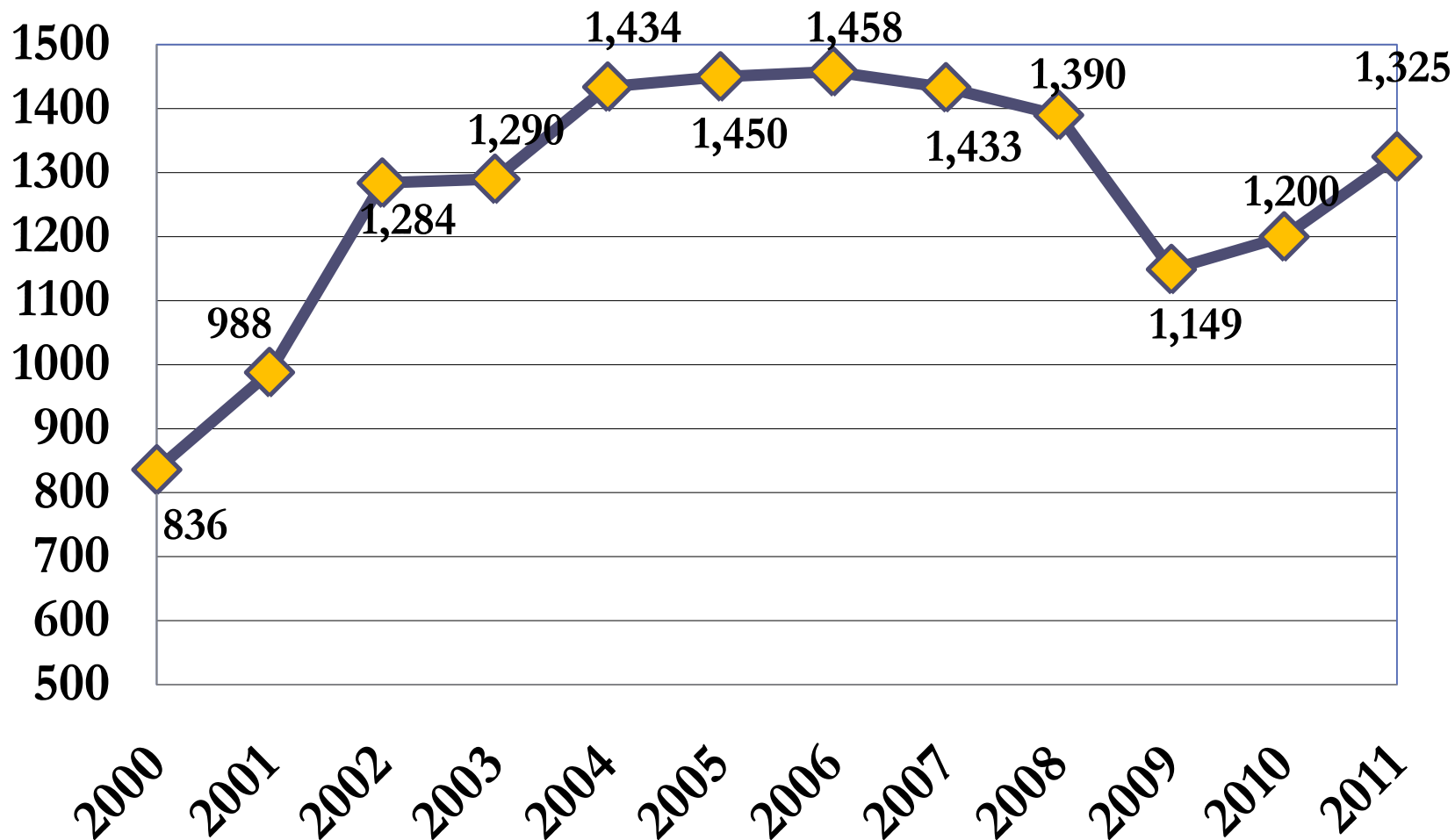
# Academic Initiatives that Address Critical Employment Needs

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- Nurse Anesthesia - CRNA
- Master's and Doctoral Degrees from VCU/MCV



# Number of Conferences, Professional Development Activities, and Special Events





# SW Center Hosts ARC Conferences



**Governor Mark Warner  
States' Co-Chair  
2002-2006**

# New Addition

- 6,000 sf
- LEED Gold
- \$3.2 Million
- Funded by  
State GOB  
VA Tobacco Com.  
ARC - \$450,000
- Opened in June  
2009



# Assisted With Development of Other Centers

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Improving  
Your Life  
By Degrees



hola



ciao



Meetings  
&  
Facilities



bonjour