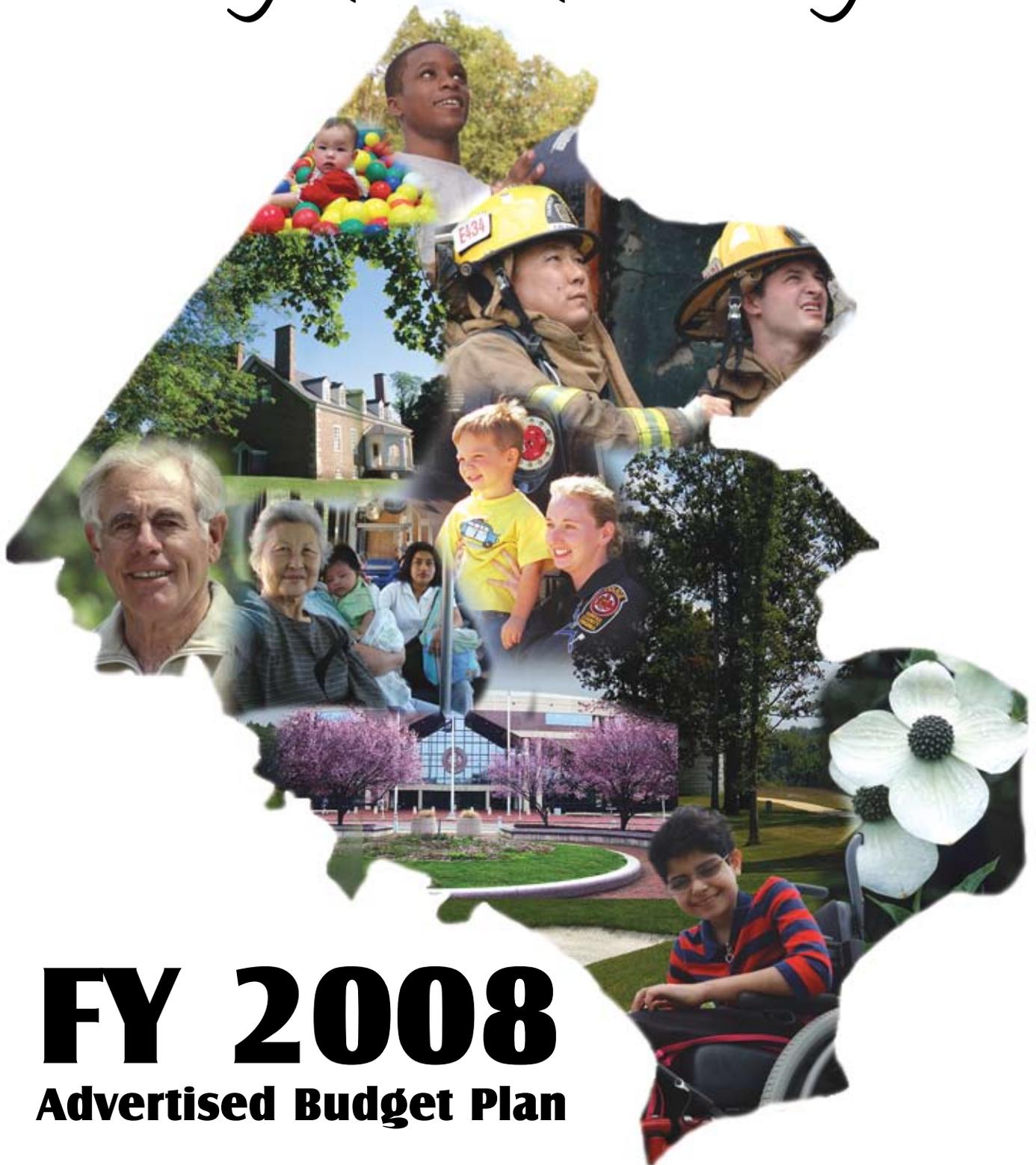


County of Fairfax, Virginia



FY 2008 **Advertised Budget Plan**

Benchmarking Charts

Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Legislative-Executive Functions/Central Services Program Area Benchmarking Charts

Since the FY 2005 Budget, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget as a means of demonstrating accountability to the public for results achieved. These data, which contain indicators of both efficiency and effectiveness, are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 and in Other Funds (Volume 2) where data are available. Among the benchmarks shown are data collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia showing cost per capita in each of the seven program areas (Legislative-Executive/Central Services; Judicial; Public Safety; Public Works; Health and Welfare; Parks, Recreation and Libraries; and Community Development. Due to the time required for data collection and cleaning, FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available. In Virginia, local governments follow stringent guidelines regarding the classification of program area expenses; therefore, the data are very comparable. Cost data are provided annually to the APA for review and compilation in an annual report. Since these data are not prepared by any one jurisdiction, their objectivity is less questionable than they would be if collected by one of the participants. In addition, a standard methodology is consistently followed, allowing comparison over time. For each of the program areas, these comparisons of cost per capita are the first benchmarks shown in these sections.

Since 2000, Fairfax County has participated in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort. Approximately 150 cities, counties and towns provide comparable data annually in at least one of 15 service areas. Many provide data for all service areas. The only one for which Fairfax County does not provide data is Roads and Highways because the Commonwealth maintains primary responsibility for that function for counties in Virginia. The agencies in this program area that provide data for benchmarking include the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Purchasing and Supply Management, and the Department of Information Technology. While not all the agencies in this program area are reflected, the benchmarks shown provide representative a snapshot of how Fairfax County compares to others in these service areas, which are among the most comparable in local government. It should be noted that it is sometimes difficult to compare various administrative functions due to variation among local governments regarding structure and provision of service. It should also be noted that there are almost 1,900 program-level performance indicators found throughout Volumes 1 and 2 for those seeking additional performance measurement data by agency.

As part of the ICMA benchmarking effort, participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive checking and data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time to collect the data and undergo ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs on the following pages generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

Access is a top priority for Fairfax County, which is continually striving enhance convenience by making services available on the internet. Among the benchmarked jurisdictions, Fairfax County was a leader in the dollar amount of public payments or E-Gov transactions with \$37.5 million collected. The next closest jurisdiction was Phoenix, Arizona with \$27.9 million. In terms of information technology efficiency and effectiveness, Fairfax County compares favorably to other large jurisdictions. It is a leader in use of Geographic Information System (GIS) information, with the most gigabytes in the GIS database of the large jurisdictions and other Virginia localities benchmarked. GIS supports a number of planning and reporting applications by automating a large volume of information so it can be efficiently and effectively used.

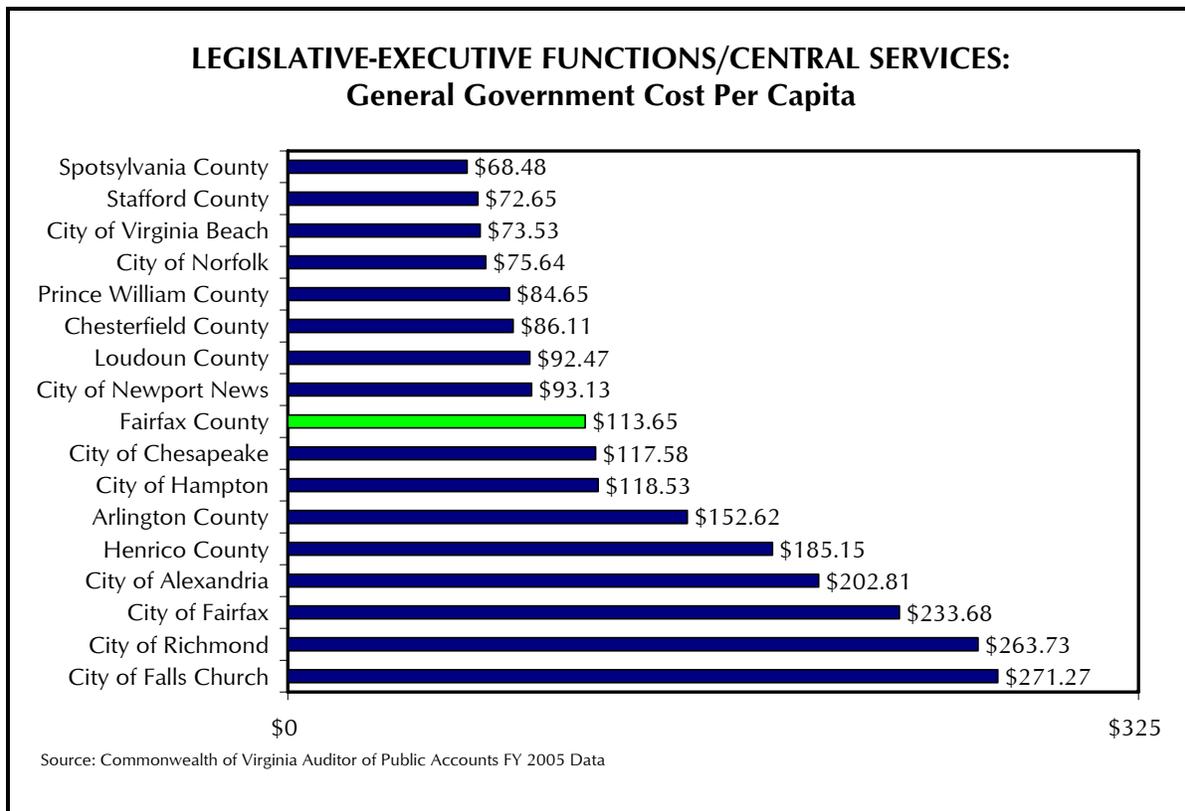
Likewise in the human resources and purchasing service areas, the County's performance is very competitive with the other benchmarked jurisdictions. Fairfax County has a relatively low rate of "Employee Benefits as a Percent of Employee Salaries." An area noted last year, an area that bears watching is the "Permanent Employee Turnover Rate," which increased to 10.1 percent in FY 2005 from 9.2 percent in FY 2004, among the highest of the large jurisdictions. Only Dallas, Texas showed a higher rate for FY 2005 among the jurisdictions compared. Fairfax County's rate is likely a function of the competitive job market in the region.

Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

The County's challenge continues to be to find ways to attract and retain highly qualified staff in such a competitive market.

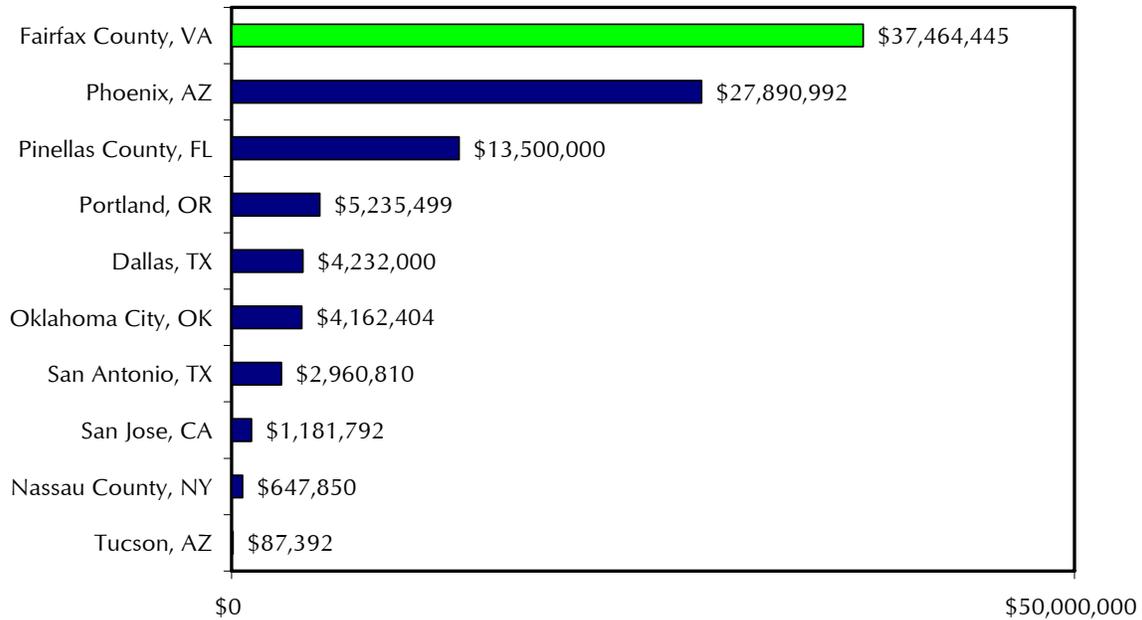
An important point to note about the ICMA comparative data effort is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have demonstrated that they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark.

Agencies use this ICMA benchmarking data in order to determine how County performance compares to other peer jurisdictions. Where other high performers are identified, the challenge is to learn what processes, systems or methods they use that contribute to their high level of performance. This is an ongoing process that is continually evolving and improving.



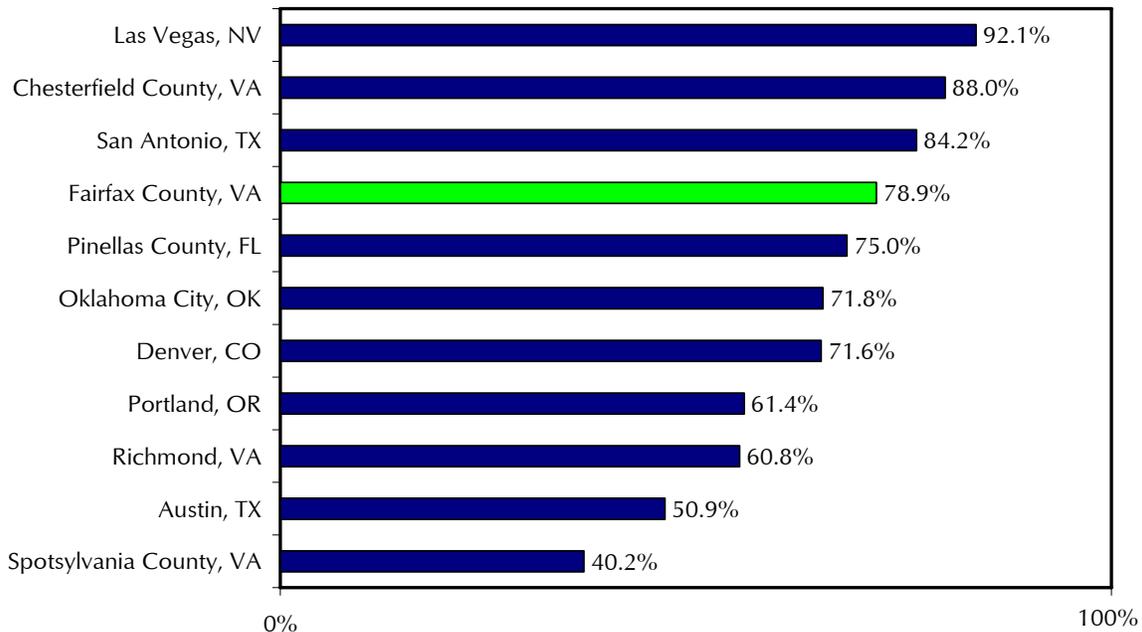
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: E-Gov Transactions: Dollar Amount of Public Payments



Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

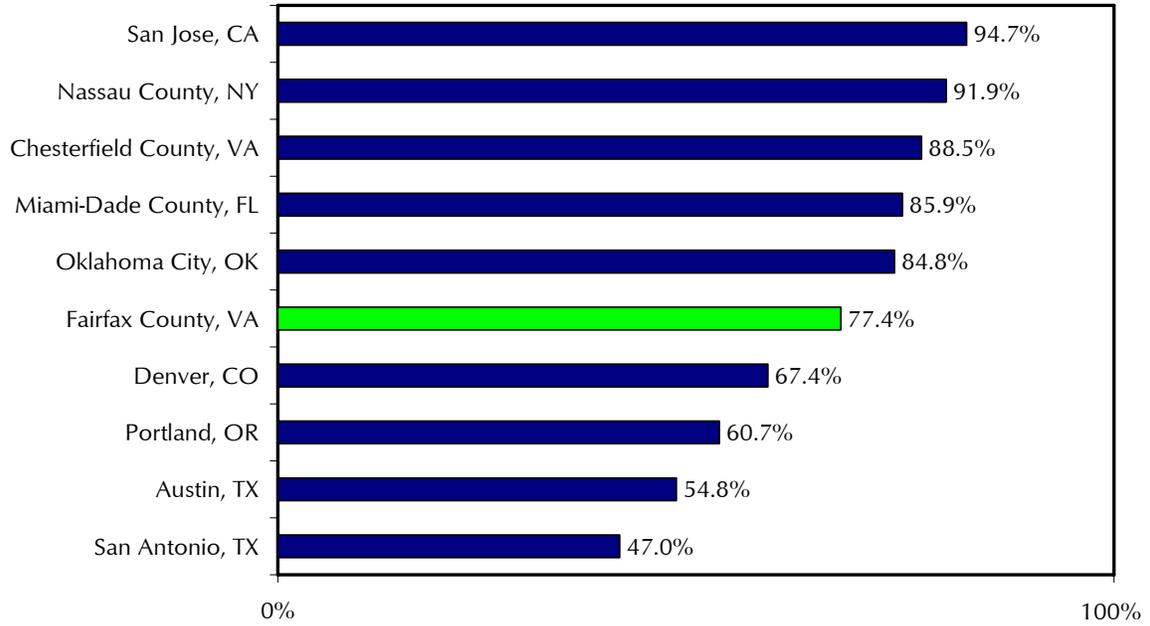
LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: Percent of Desktop Service Calls Resolved Within 24 Hours



Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

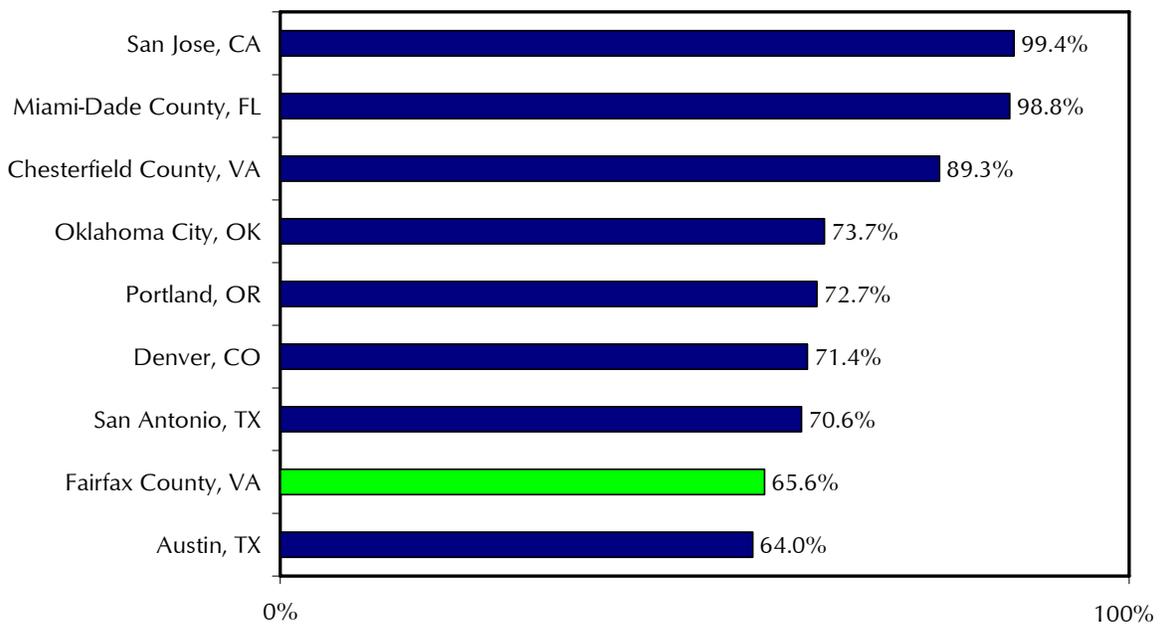
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: Percent of Telephone Repair Calls Resolved within 24 Hours



Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

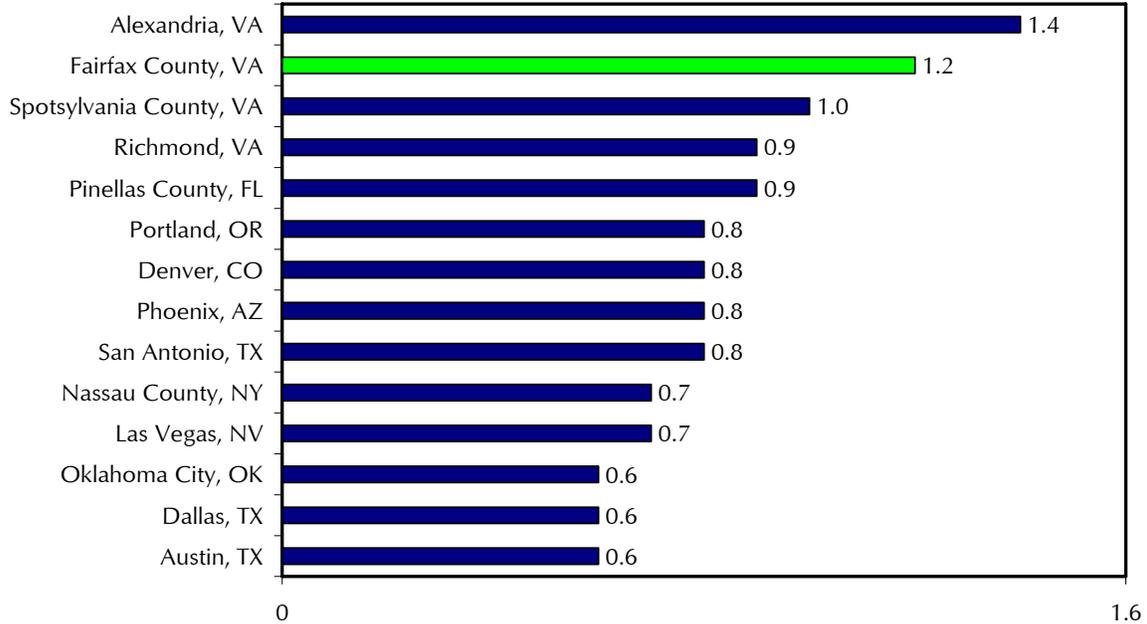
LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: Percent of Network Calls Resolved within 24 Hours



Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: Ratio of Intelligent Workstations to Total Employees



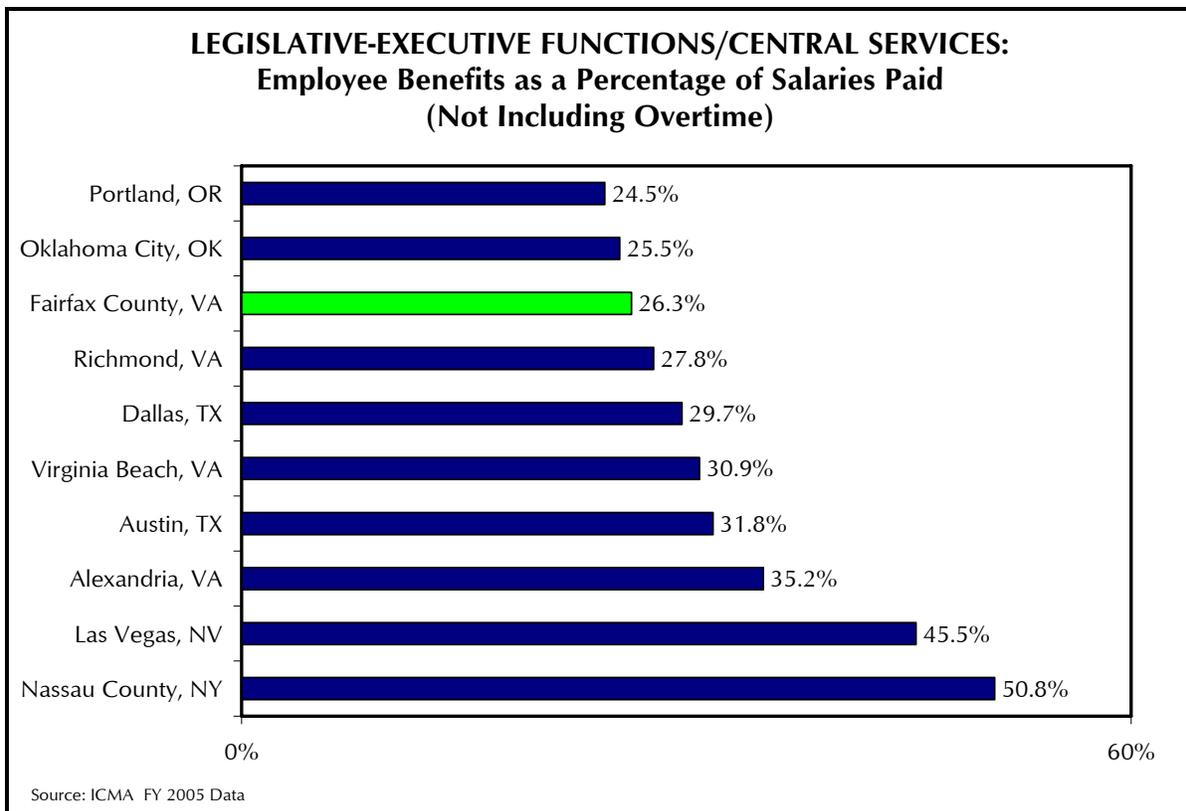
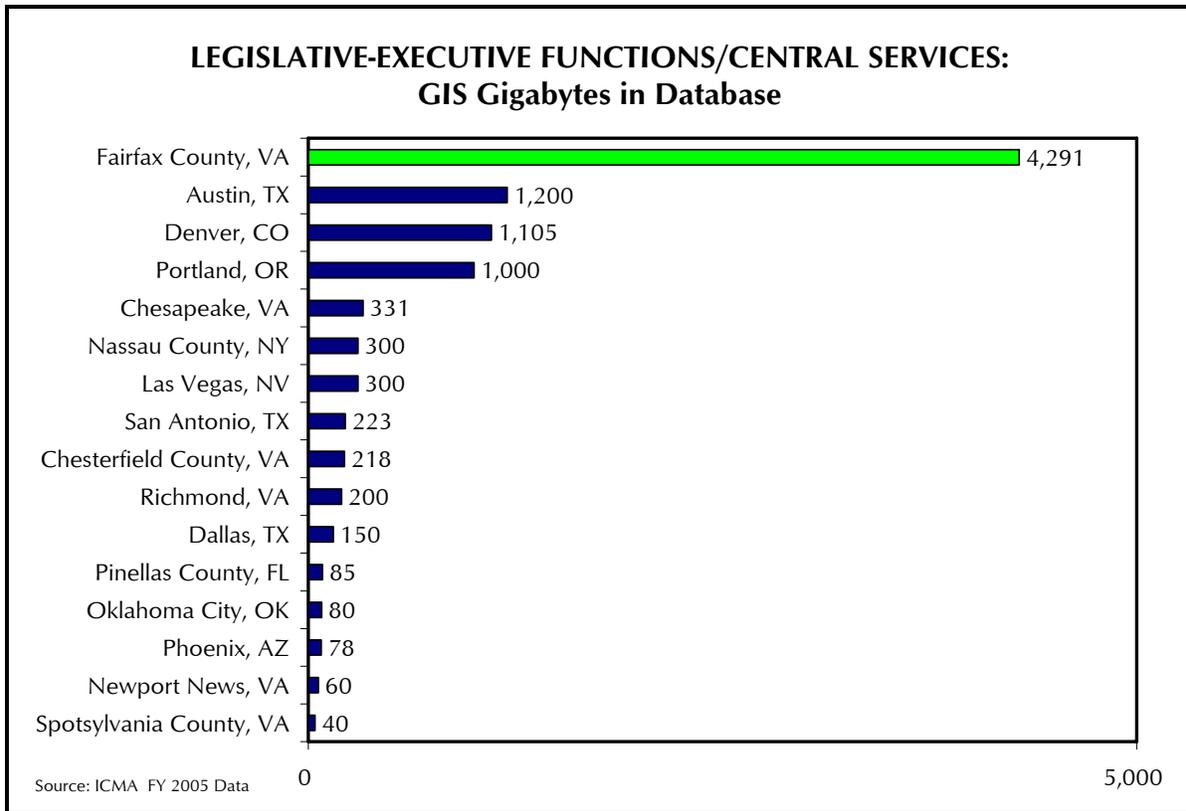
Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS/CENTRAL SERVICES: Central IT Operating and Maintenance Expenditures Per Workstation

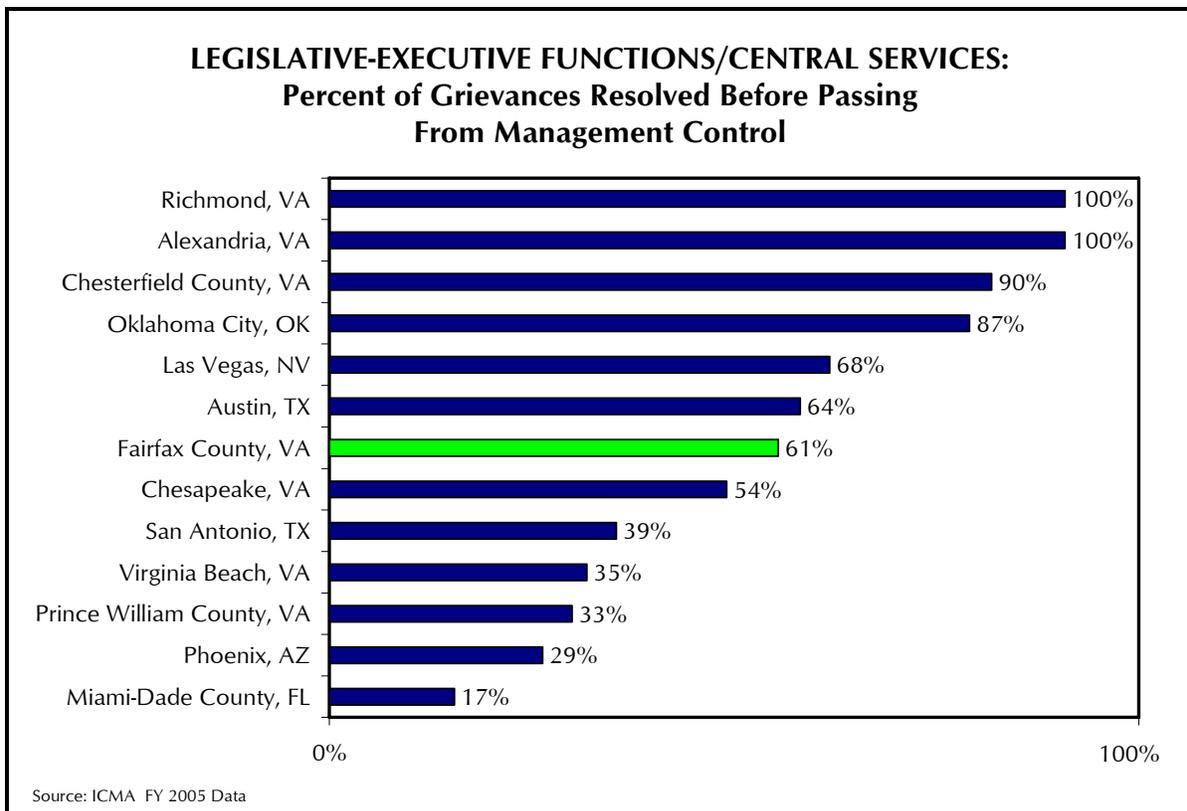
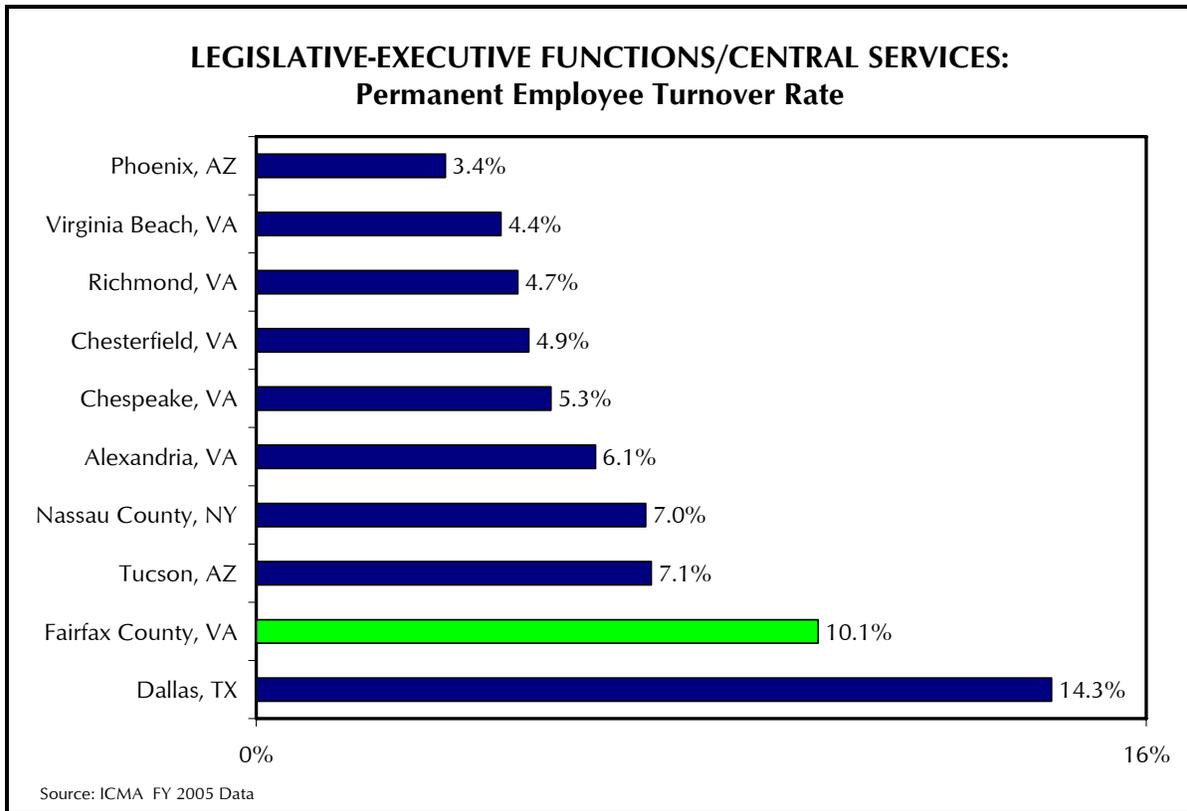


Source: ICMA FY 2005 Data

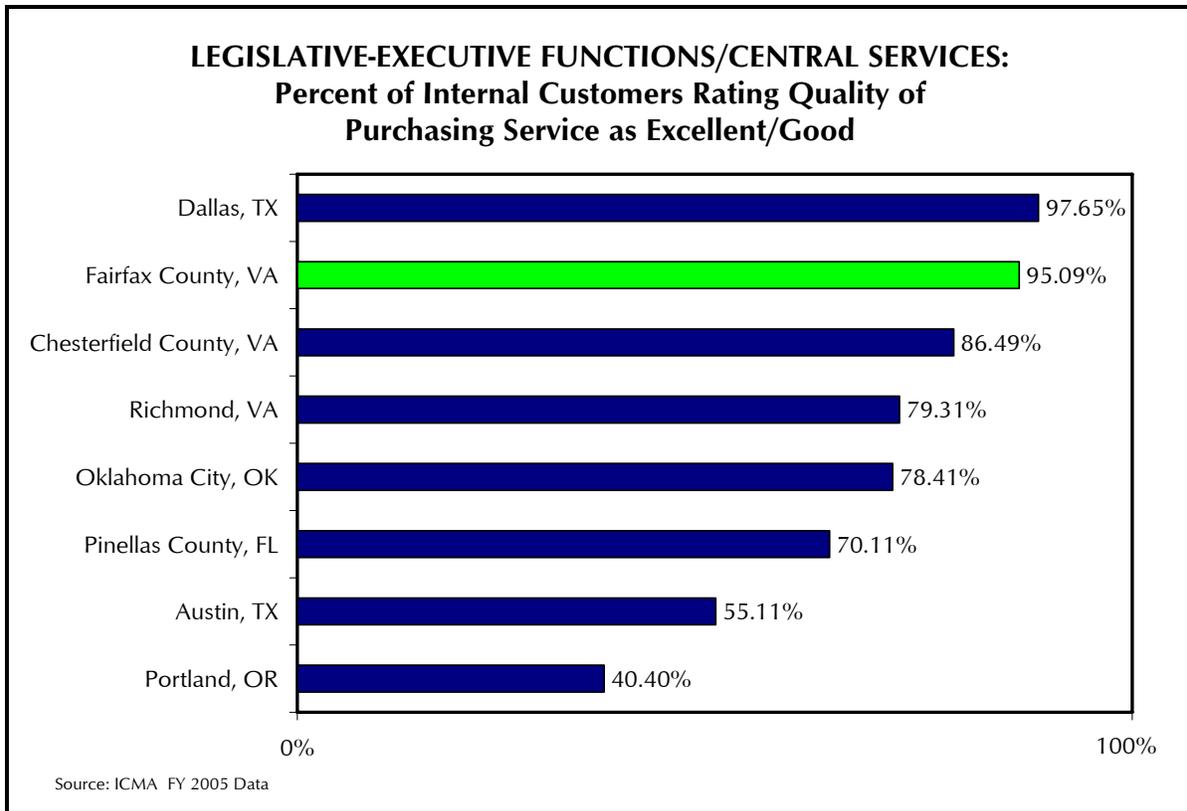
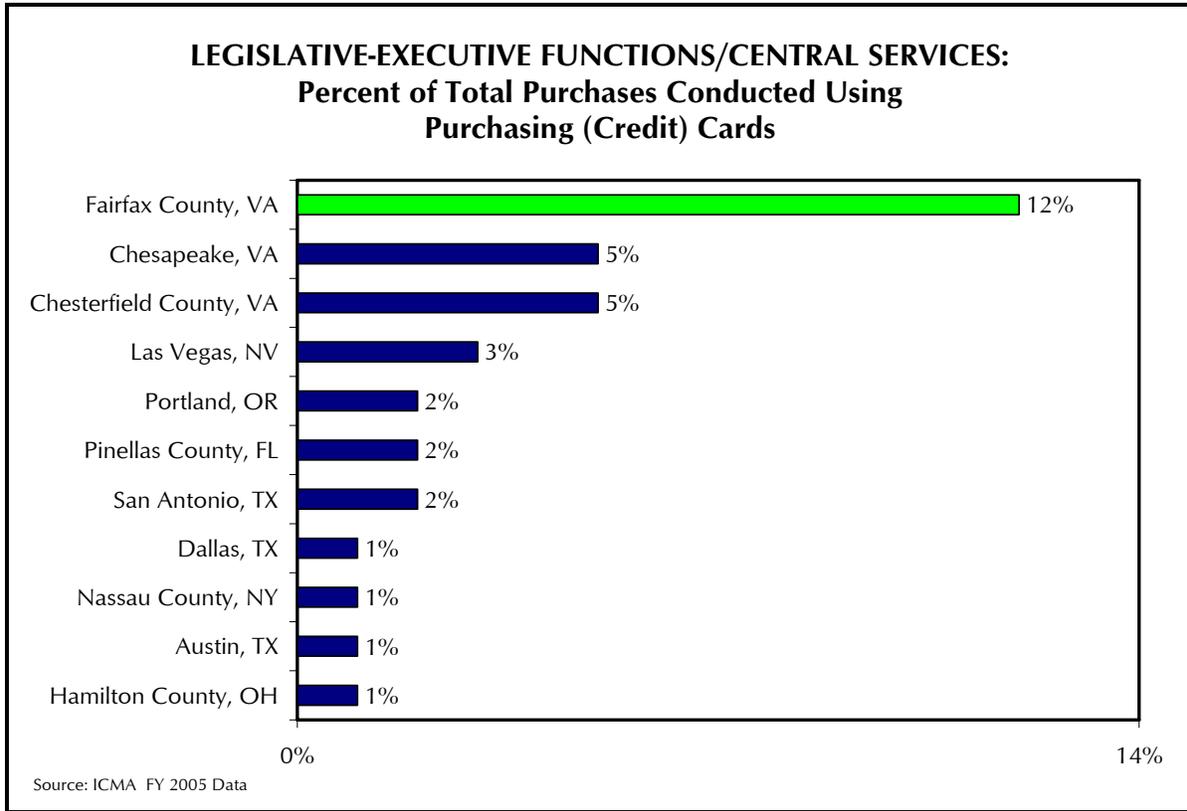
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Judicial Administration Program Area Benchmarking Charts

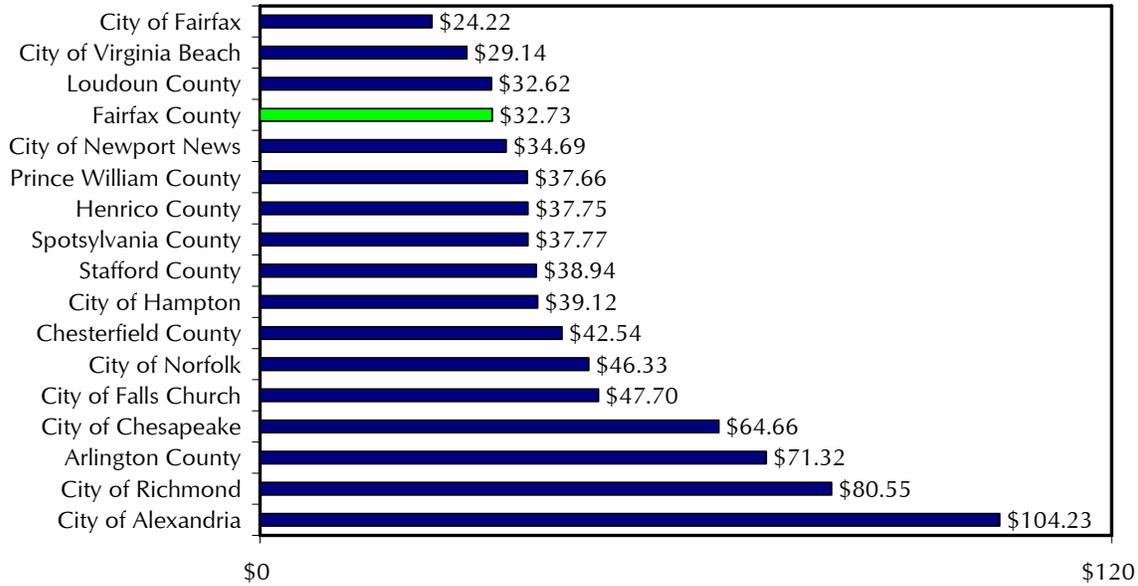
As a means of demonstrating accountability to the public for results achieved, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget since the FY 2005 Budget. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 (General Fund) and Volume 2 (Other Funds) as available. To illustrate program efficiency, data collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia that show cost per capita in each of the seven program areas are included. FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available due to the time required to collect and verify the data. An advantage to including these APA data is comparability. In Virginia, local governments follow stringent guidelines regarding the classification of program area expenses. Cost data are provided annually to the APA for review and compilation in an annual report. Since these data are not prepared by any one jurisdiction, their objectivity is less questionable than they would be if collected by one of the participants. In addition, a standard methodology is consistently followed, allowing comparison over time. For each of the program areas, these comparisons of cost per capita are the first benchmarks shown in these sections. As seen below, Fairfax County has among the lowest cost per capita rates in the Judicial Administration program area for Northern Virginia localities and other large Virginia jurisdictions.

While a major portion of Fairfax County's comparative performance data for other program areas comes from the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort, judicial administration is not a service area that is addressed in that program. However, the State Supreme Court produces an extensive report on the annual "State of the Judiciary." The most recent report available is for Calendar Year 2005. This report provides detailed data for each of the districts in the Commonwealth of Virginia and addresses Circuit, General District, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts. Trends within each district are provided, as are comparisons to state averages. The charts shown below reflect data from this report.

As can be seen on the following page, 66.9 percent of felony cases in Fairfax's Nineteenth Circuit in 2006 were tried/adjudicated within 120 days of arrest. Among all 31 circuits in the Commonwealth, the Nineteenth ranked third in 2005 and was considerably above the statewide average of 47.1 percent. In terms of the percentage of misdemeanors tried/adjudicated within 60 days of arrest, Fairfax County ranked first in the state at 80.4 percent. The statewide average was 48.7 percent.

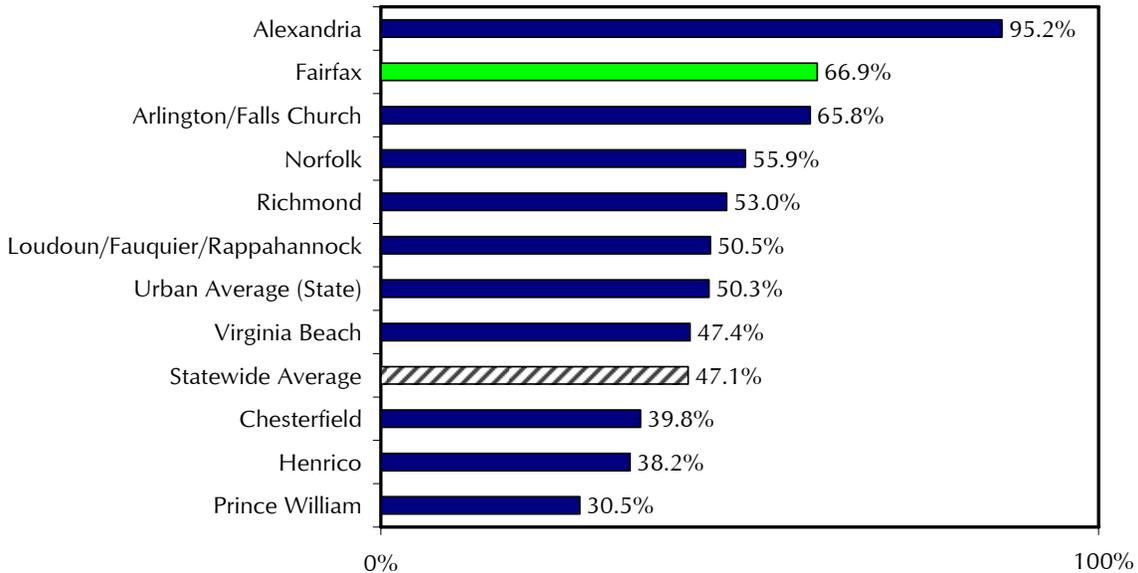
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION: Judicial Administration Cost Per Capita



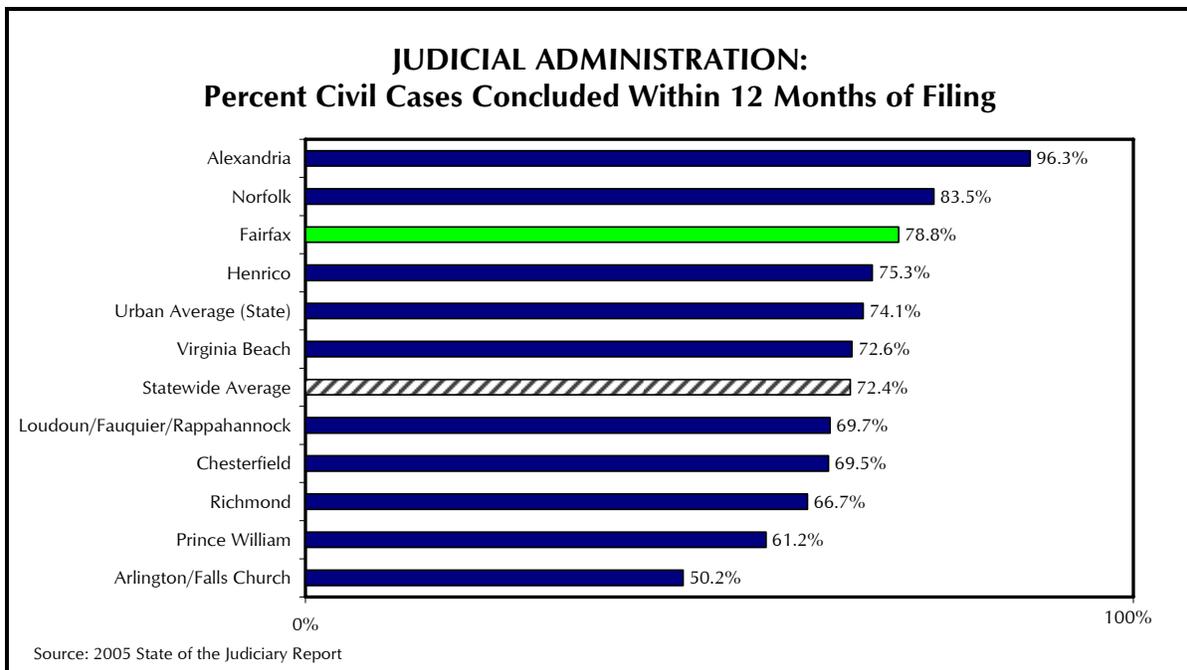
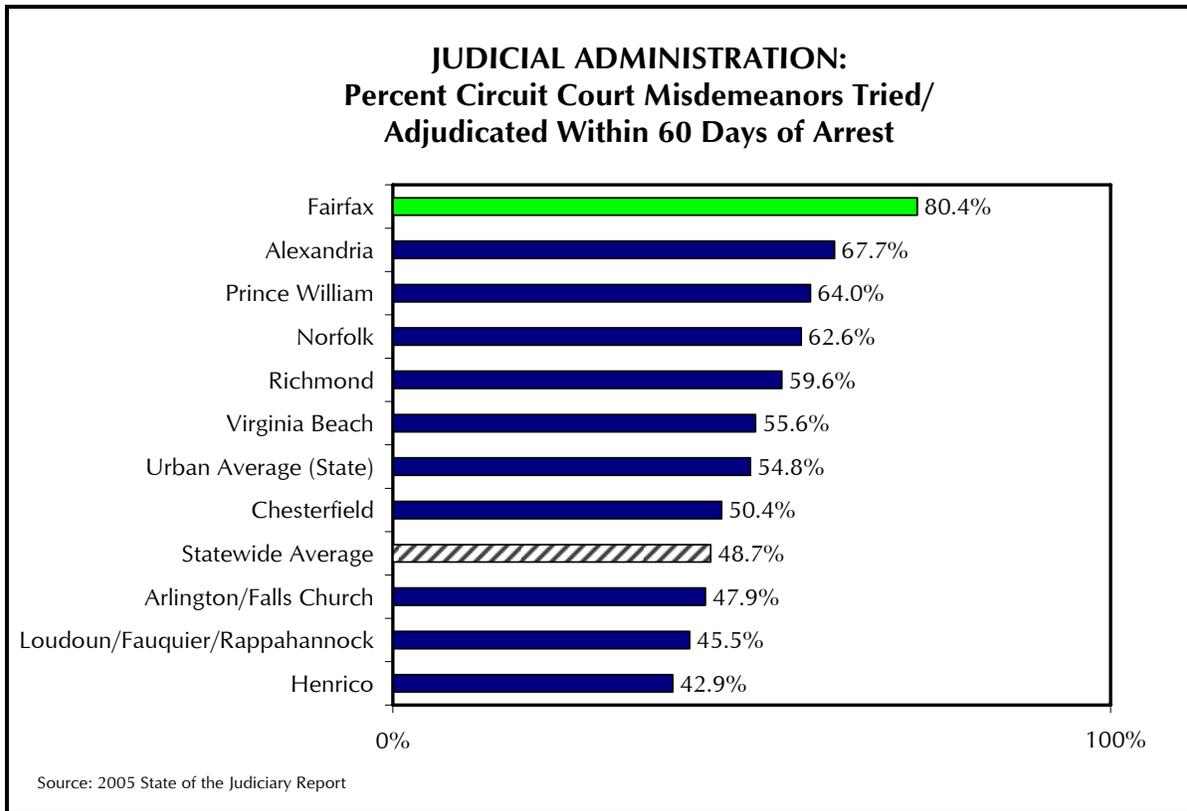
Source: Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts - FY 2005 Data

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION: Percent Circuit Court Felonies Tried/ Adjudicated Within 120 Days of Arrest

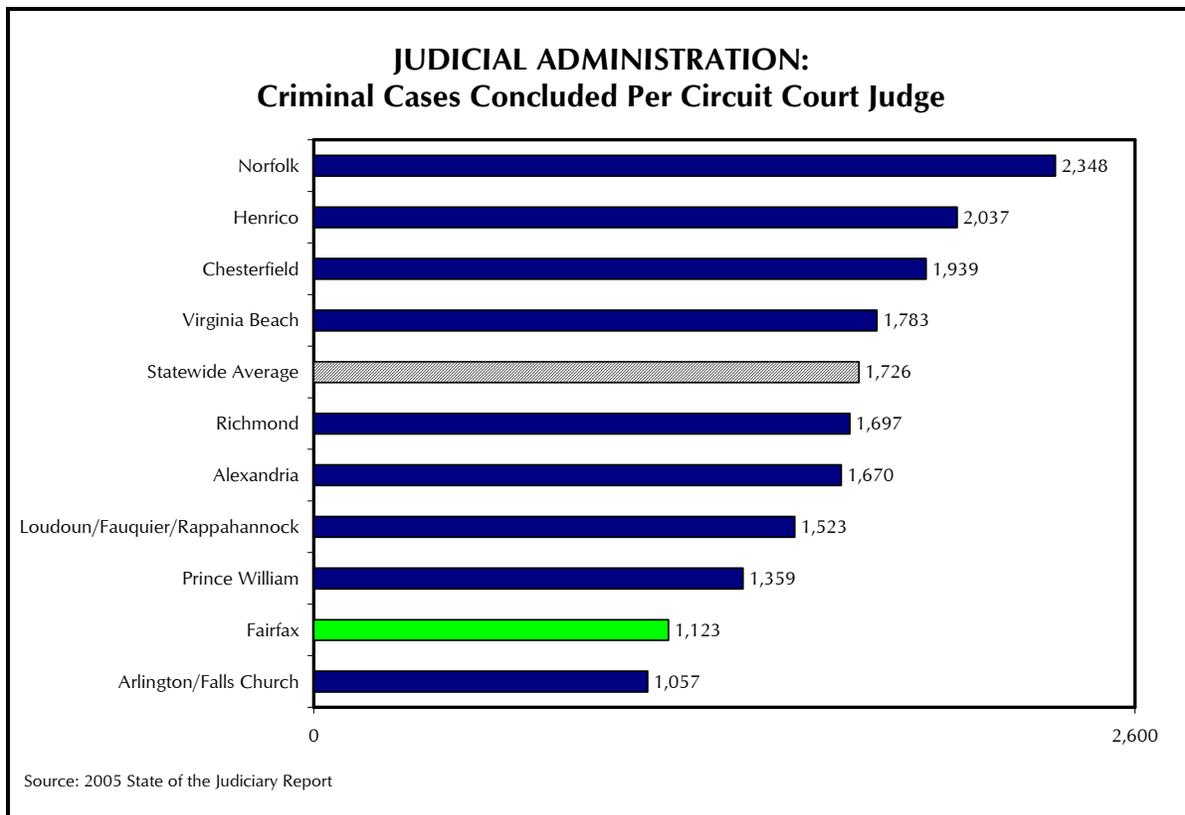
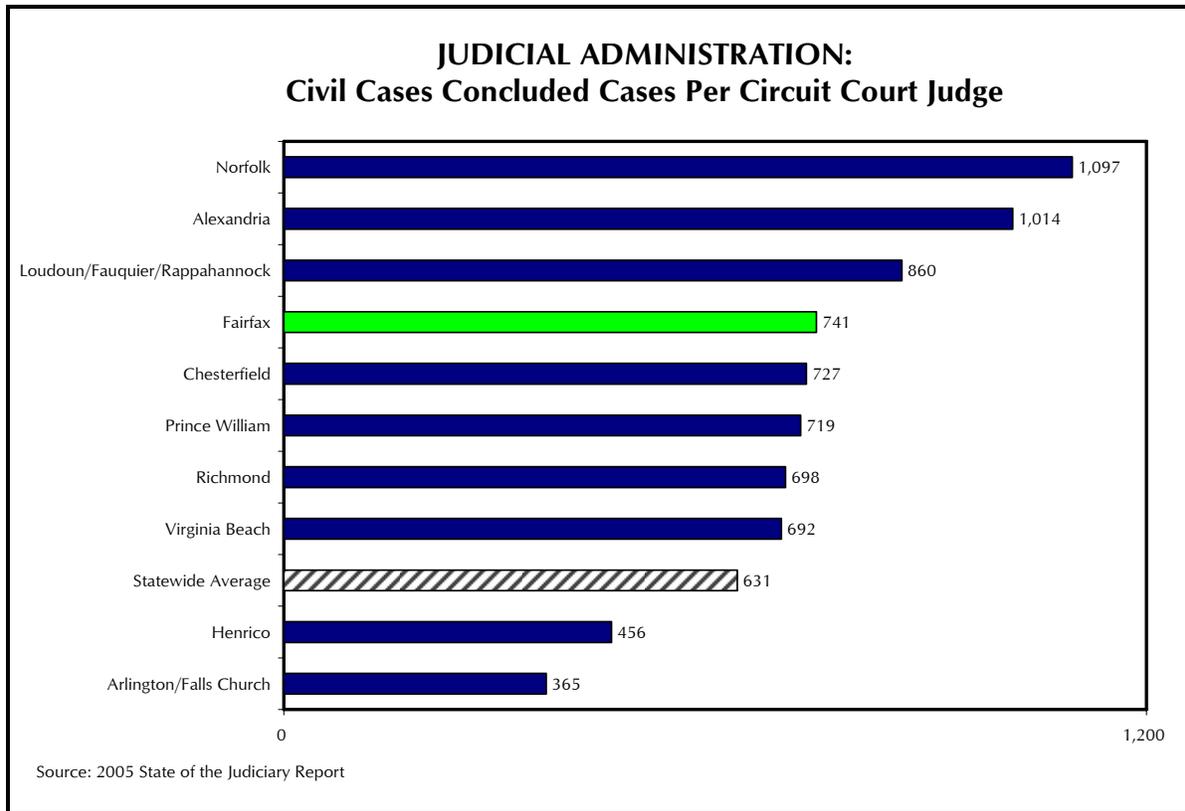


Source: 2005 State of the Judiciary Report

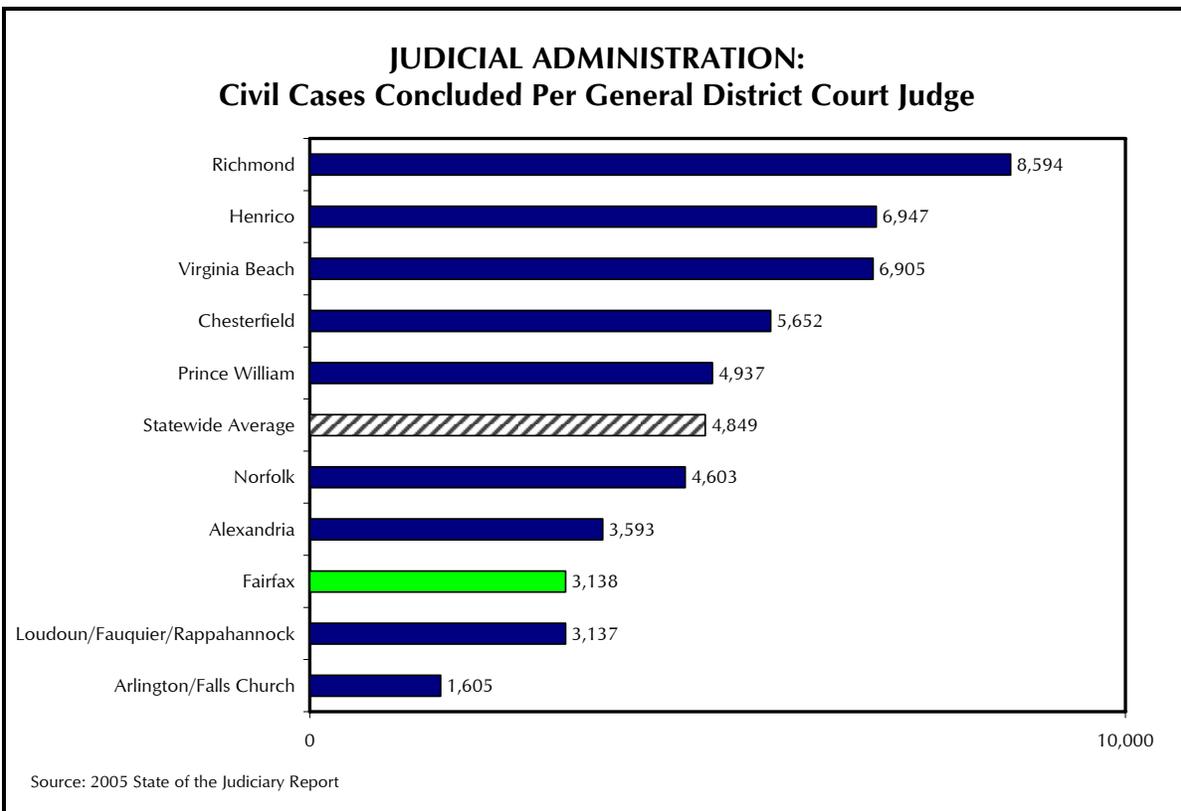
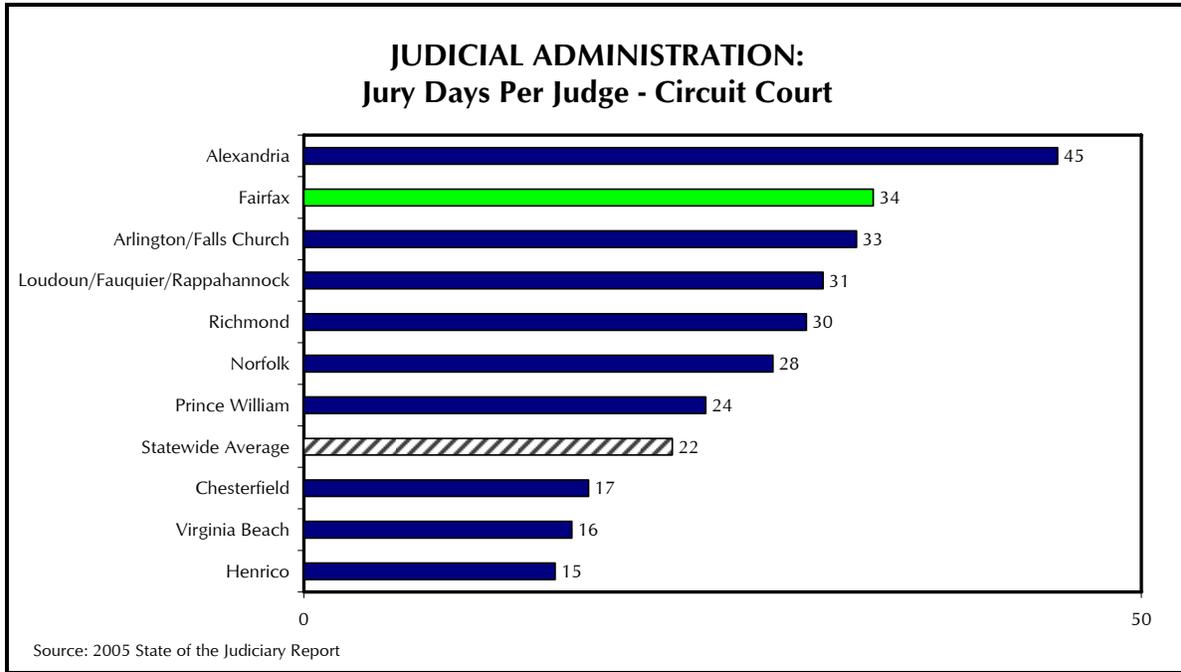
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



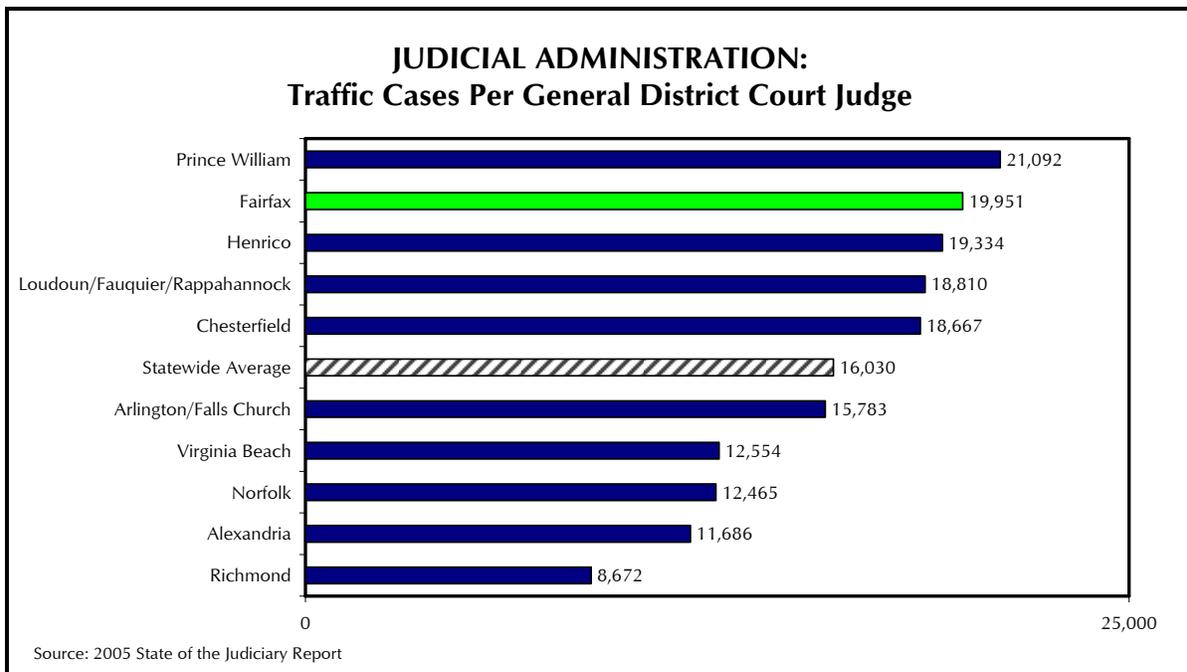
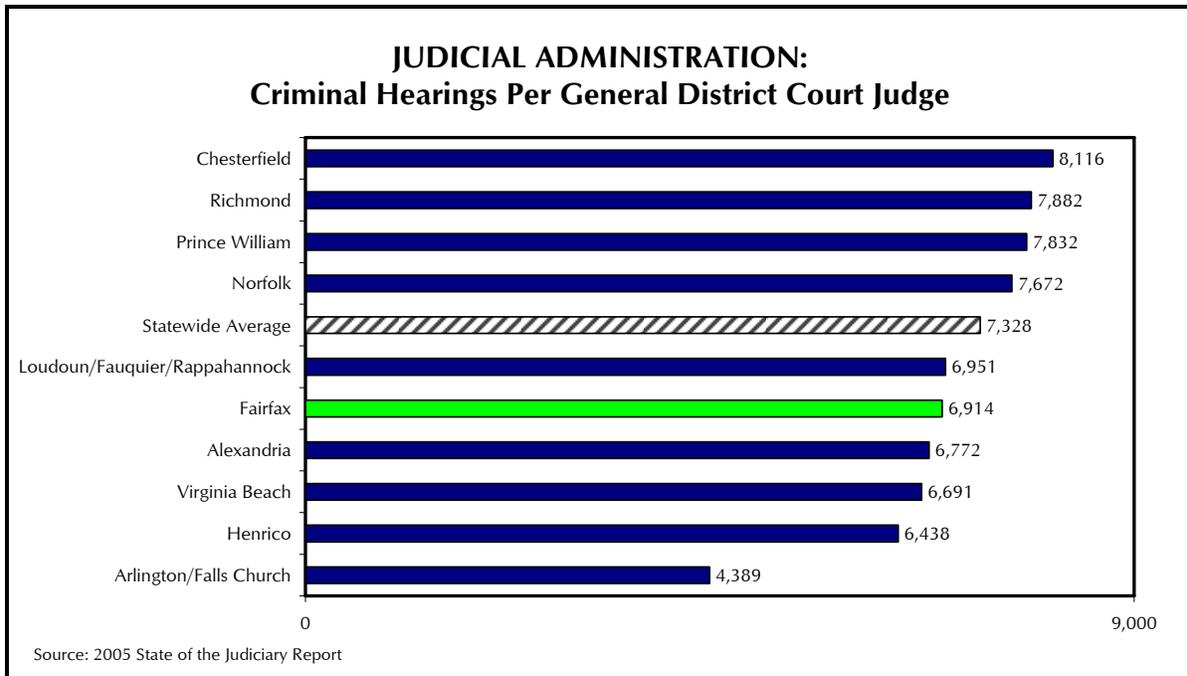
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



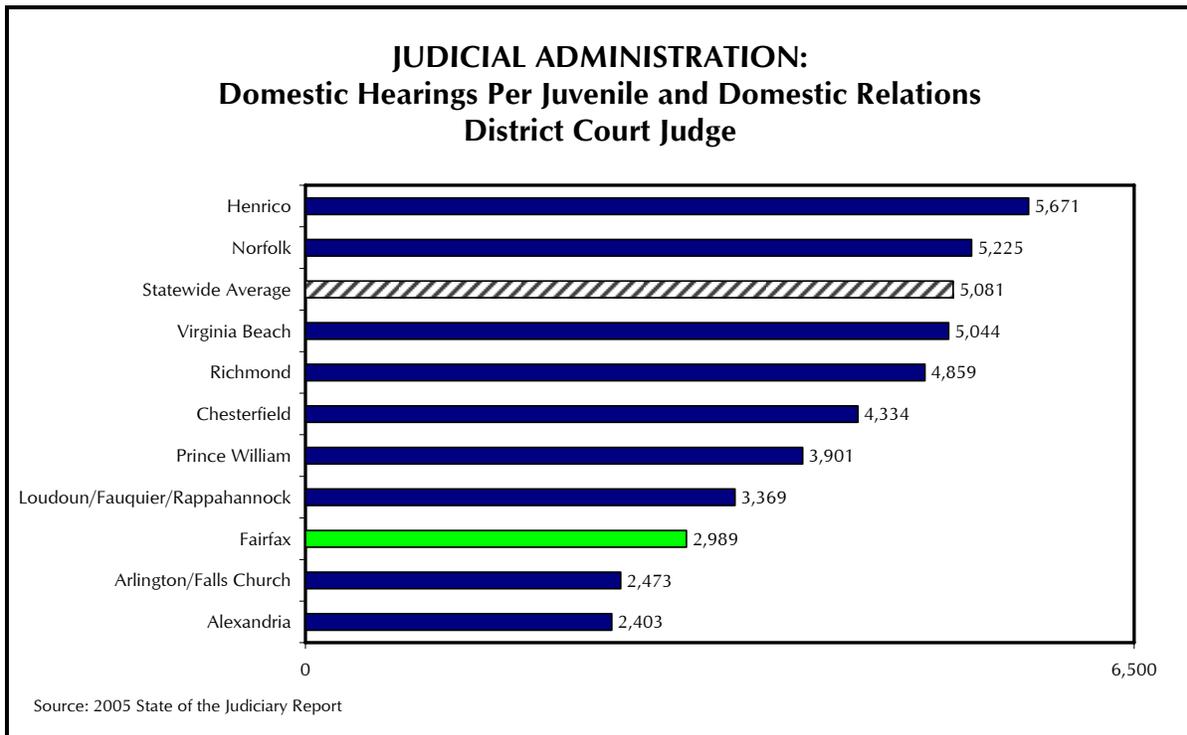
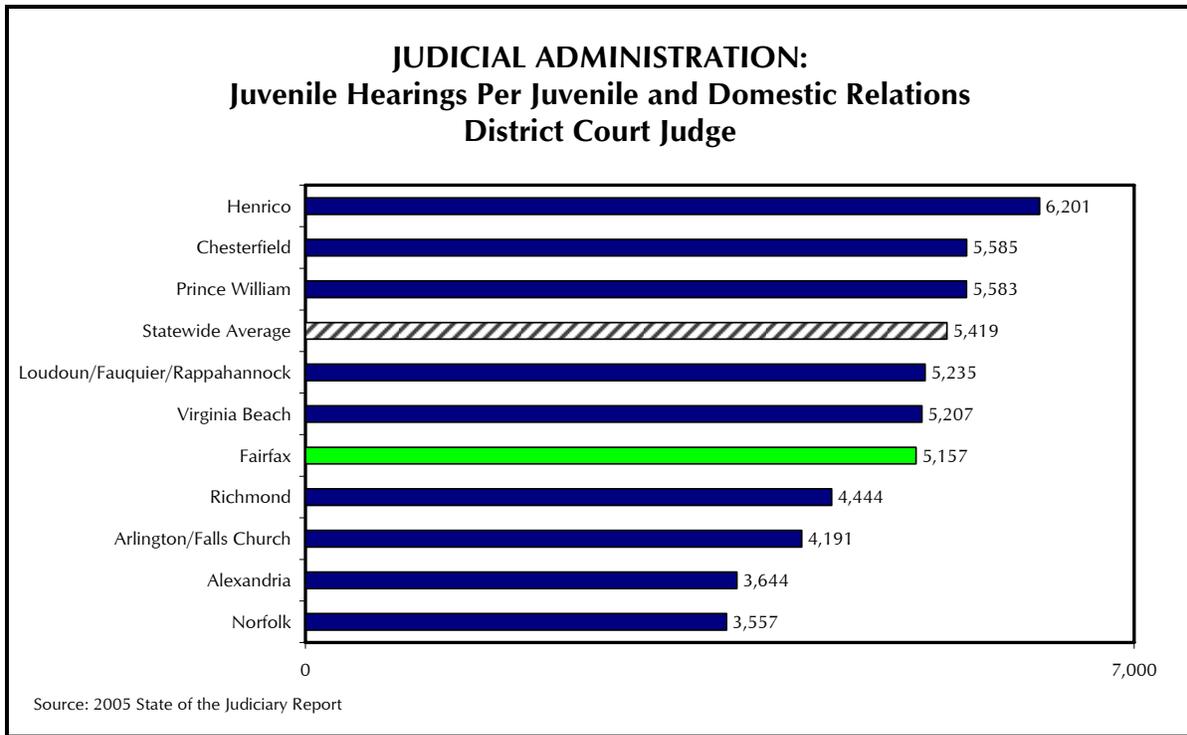
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Public Safety Program Area Benchmarking Charts

In order to obtain a wide range of comparative performance data, Fairfax County has participated in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort since 2000. Over 150 cities and counties provided comparable data in a number of service areas for the last reporting cycle. Not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area, however. Police and Fire/EMS are two of the benchmarked service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. Participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive data cleaning to ensure the greatest possible accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time for data collection and ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs below generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

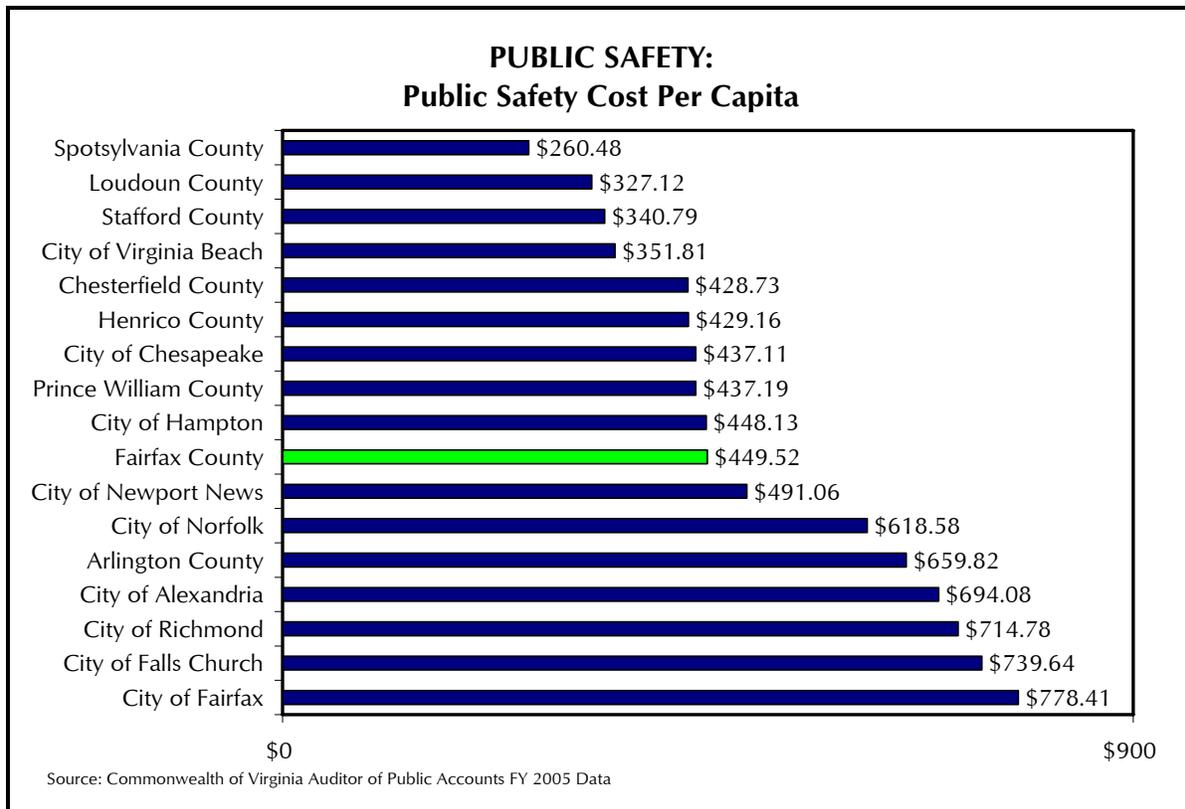
An important point to note in an effort such as this is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have shown they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. Not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark. However, whenever a jurisdiction of over 500,000 residents or another Virginia locality responded to a particular question for which Fairfax County also provided data, those comparisons have been included. It is also important to note that performance is also affected by a number of variables including funding levels, weather, the economy, local preferences, cuts in federal and state aid, unionization and demographic characteristics such as income, age and ethnicity.

Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

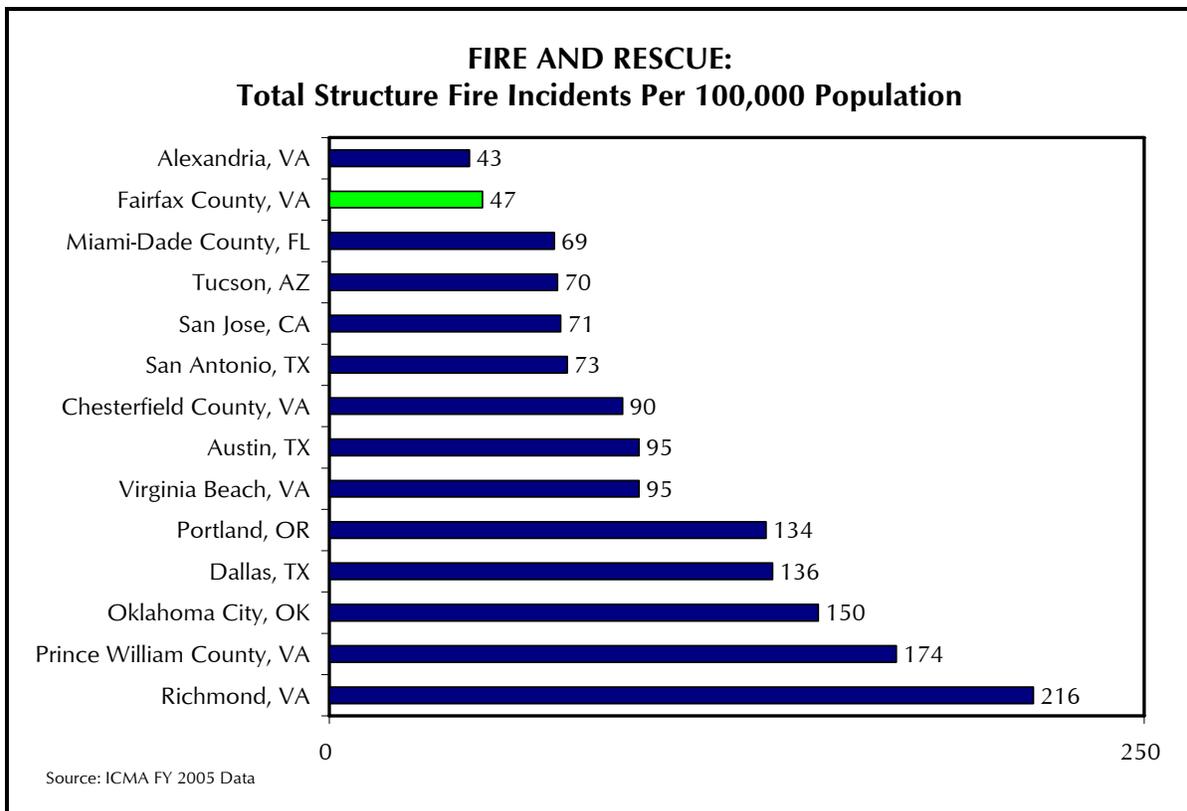
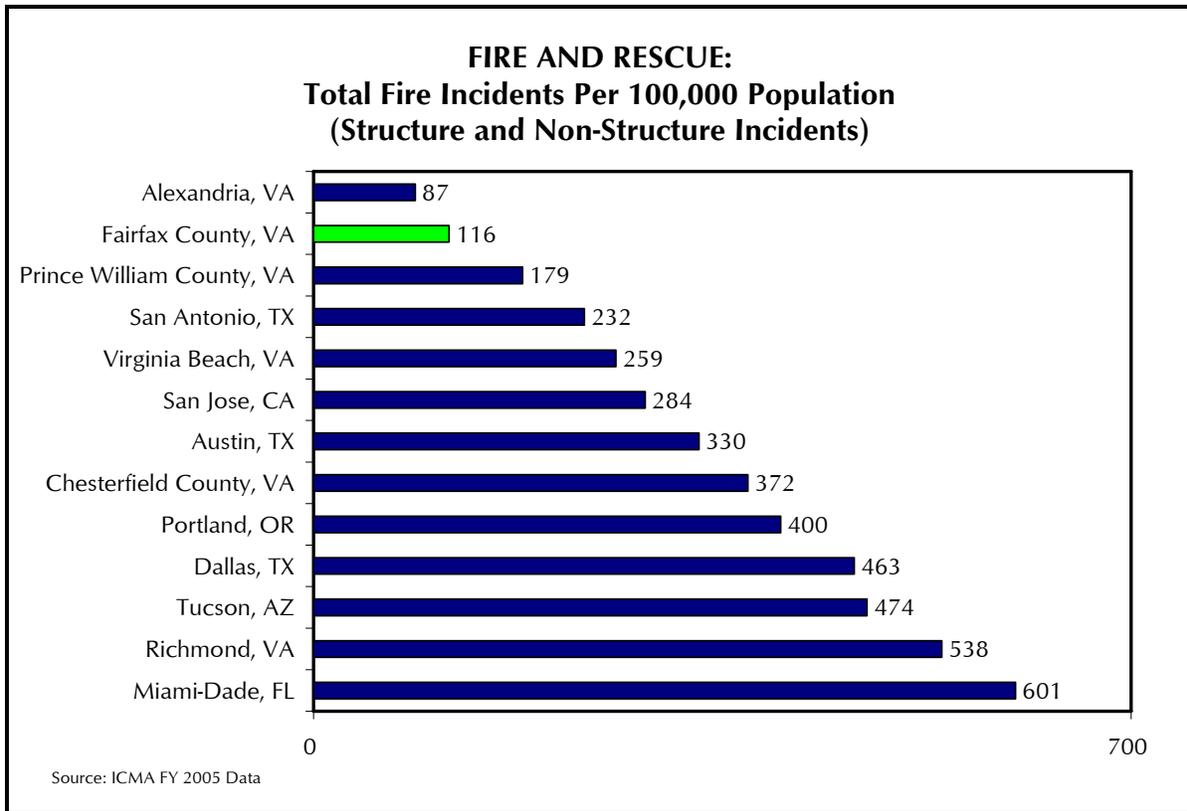
As can be seen from the graphs on the following pages, Fairfax County ranks favorably compared to other large jurisdictions and other Virginia localities with regard to performance in the public safety area. Compared to other large cities and counties within the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as the other Northern Virginia localities, Fairfax County's cost per capita for public safety expenditures is in the mid-range. This is probably to be expected as taxpayers and the Board of Supervisors would likely not want to be the cheapest nor the most expensive in this critical program area. For the investment that Fairfax County makes, there is a very high return in terms of public safety.

With only 116 Total Fire Incidents per 100,000 Population Served (structure and non-structure incidents) the County had the second lowest rate in comparison to other large and Virginia jurisdictions responding. In addition, Fairfax County had the second lowest rate of Total Structure Fires per 100,000 Population at 47. This attests to a highly effective fire prevention program that places emphasis on avoidance rather than the more costly and dangerous requirements associated with extinguishment. An area where improvement continues to be indicated is the Percent of Emergency Fire Calls with a Response Time of Five Minutes and Under from Dispatch to Arrival on the Scene. Fairfax County's rate of 57.1 percent is below the 60-77 percent rates achieved by Las Vegas, Miami-Dade, Austin, Richmond and Dallas. It is anticipated that the addition of the Crosspointe and Wolf Trap Fire Stations in the coming years will result in improved response times.

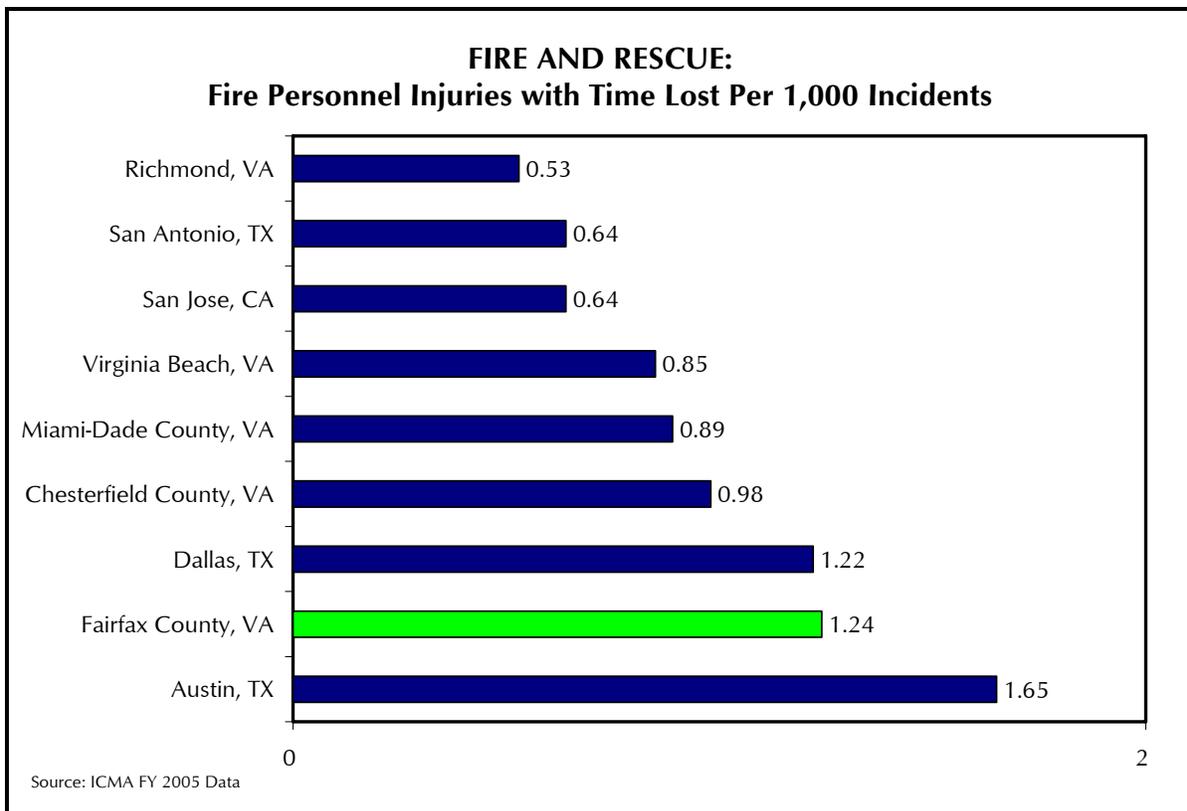
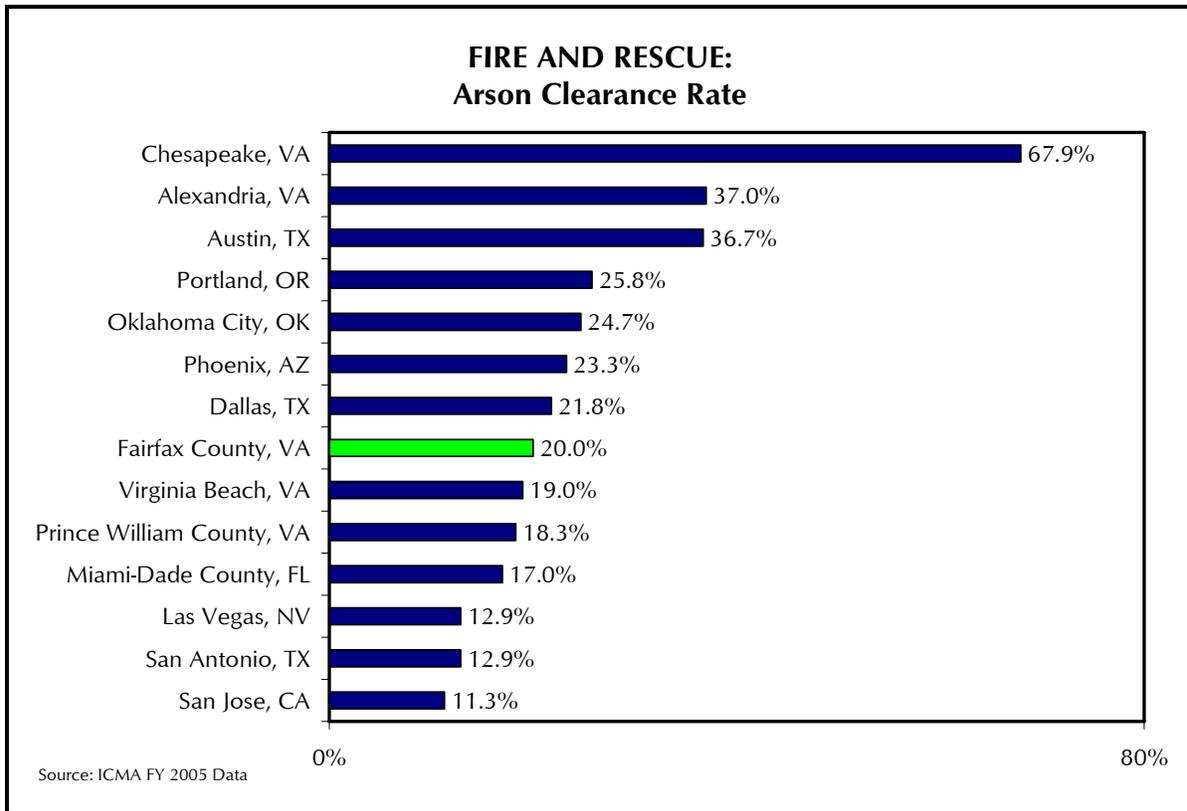
With regard to the crime rate, Fairfax County continued to experience an extremely low rate of Violent Crimes per 1,000 Population, further validating the County's reputation as a safe place to live and work. The County's rate was again 1.0 UCR Part I Violent Crime Reported per 1,000 Population. The UCR Part 1 Property Crimes Reported per 1,000 is the third lowest among responding participants, while the clearance rate was the third highest among the comparison jurisdictions. Fairfax County had the fourth lowest rate of Injury-producing Traffic Accidents per 1,000 Population at 5.2, while Traffic Fatalities per 1,000 was sixth lowest among the 17 jurisdictions responding. A number of other police and fire benchmarks are shown on the following pages.



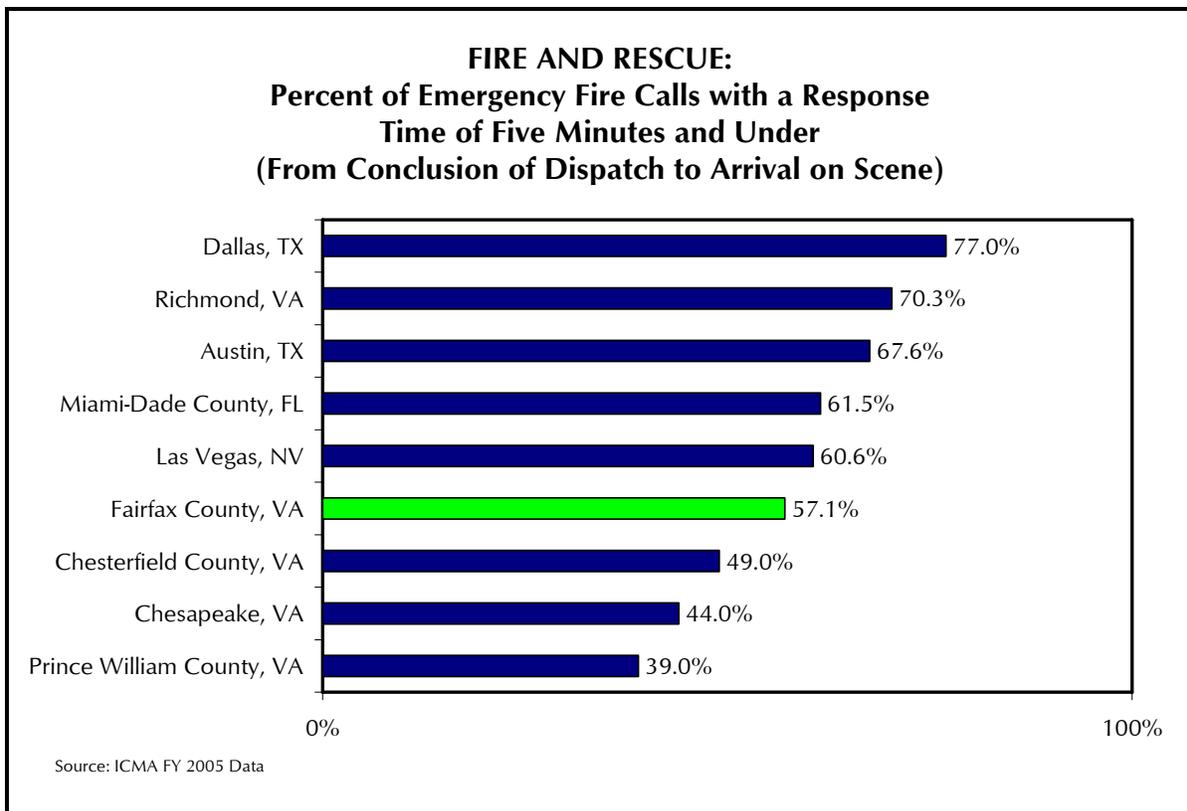
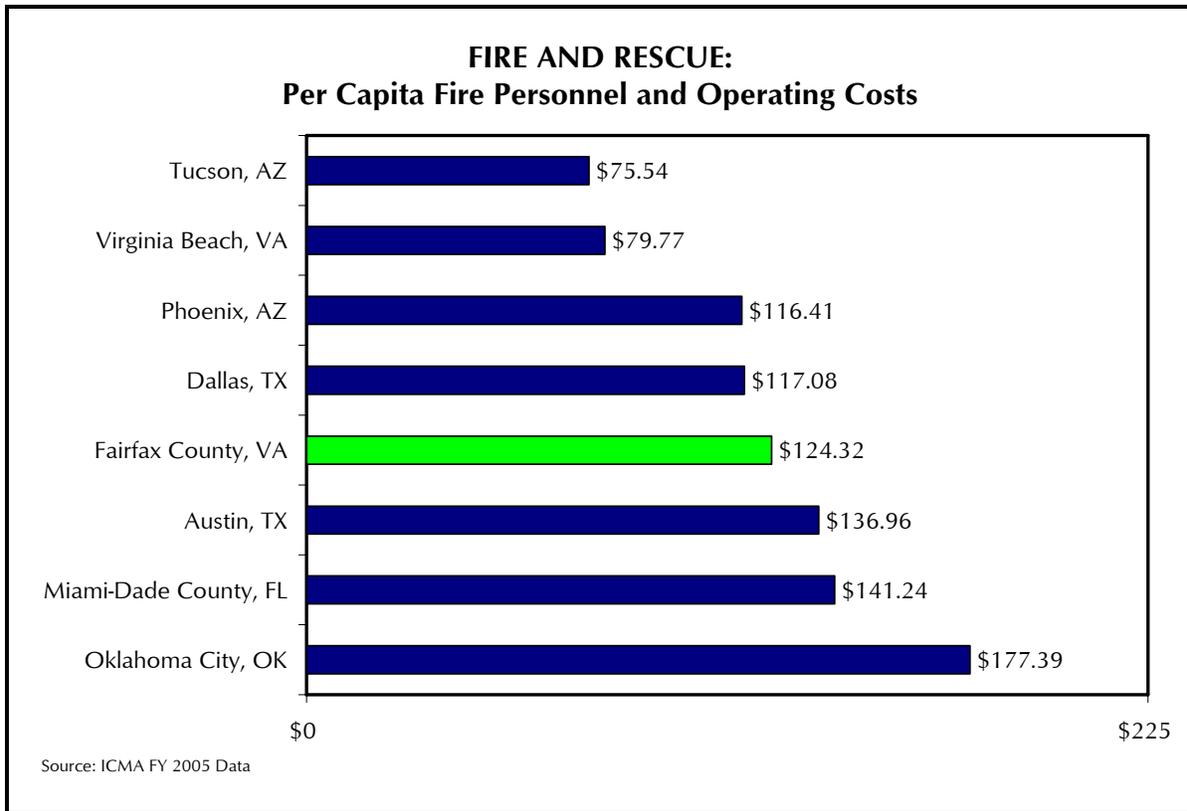
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

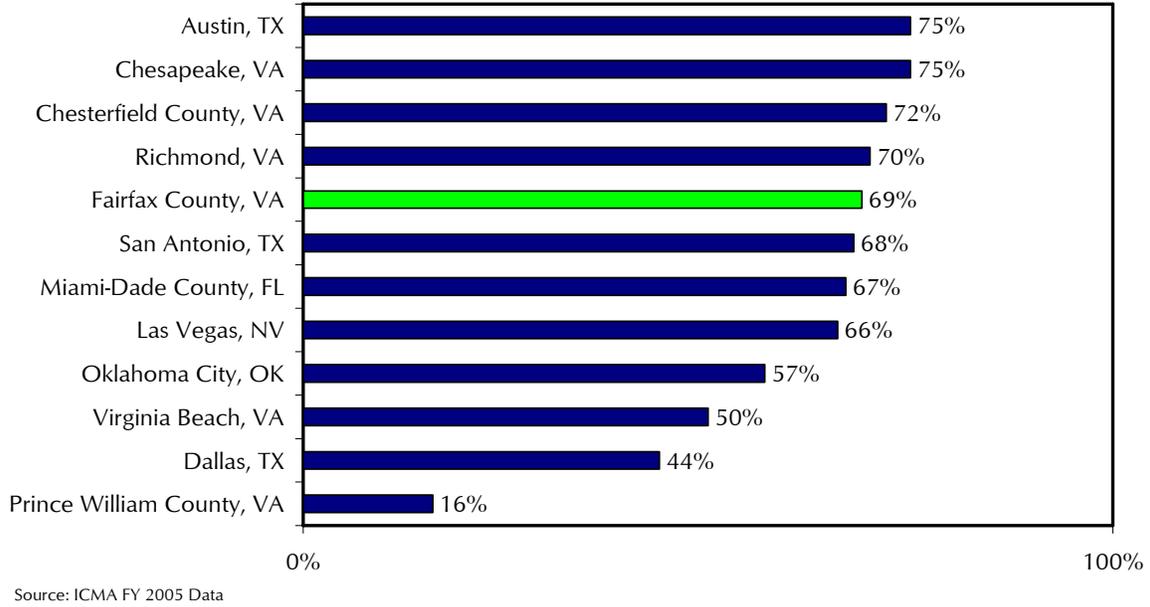


Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

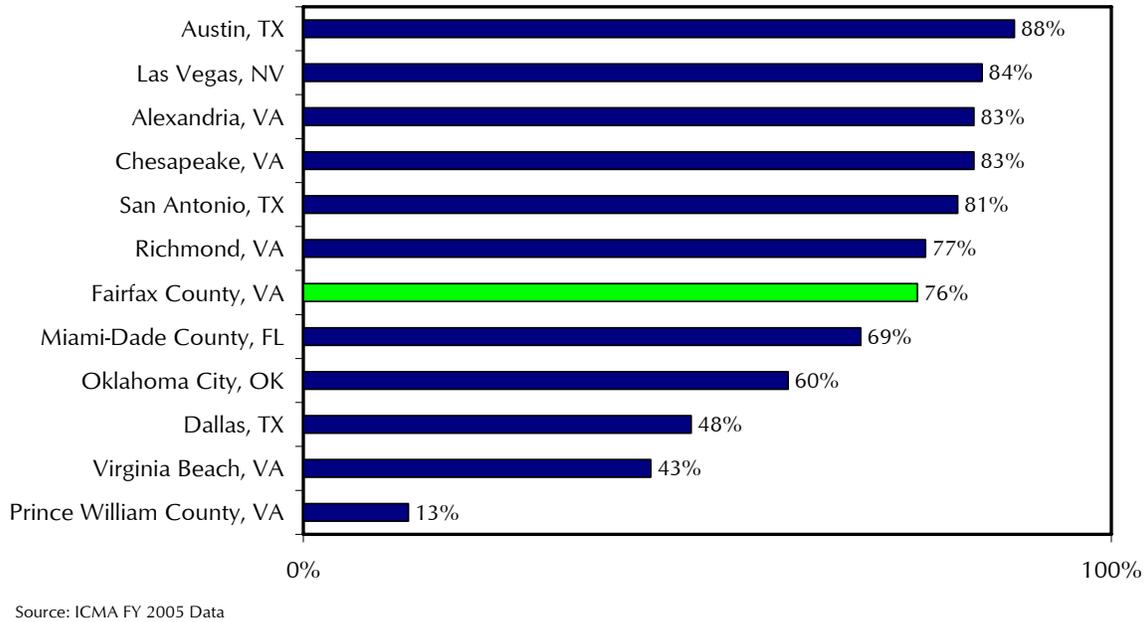


Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

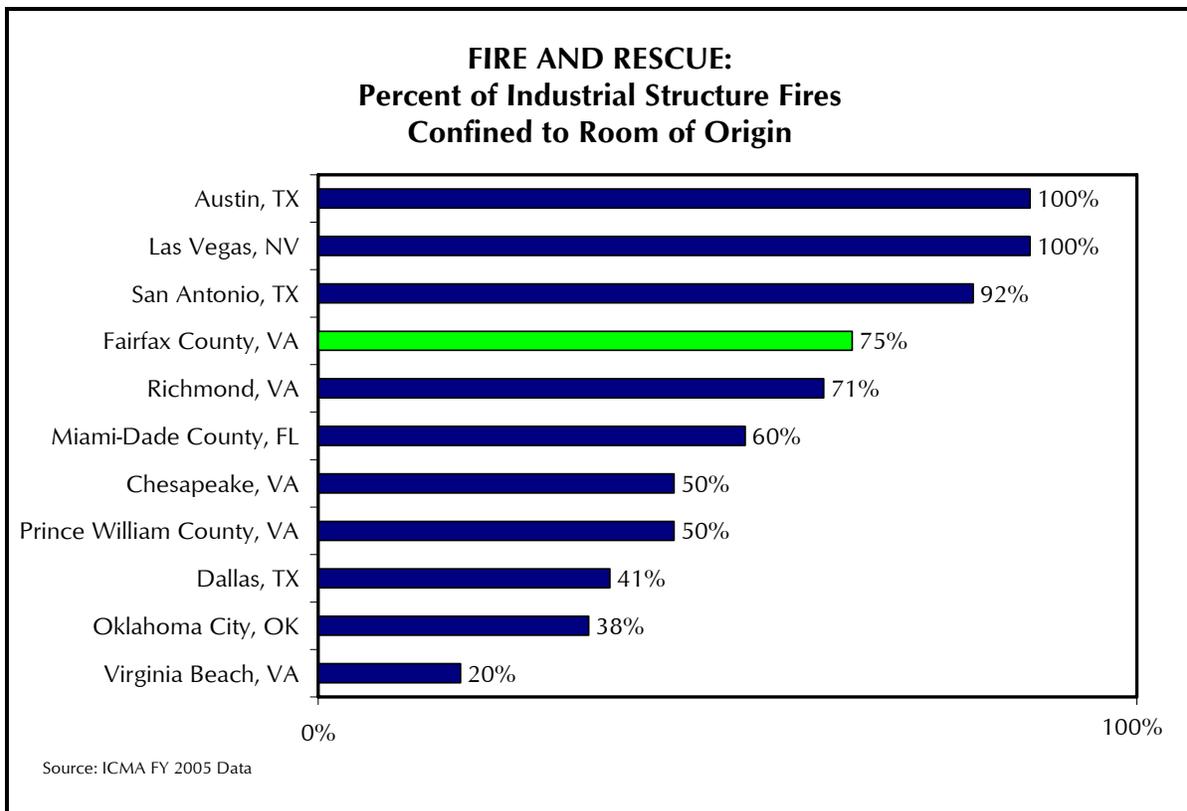
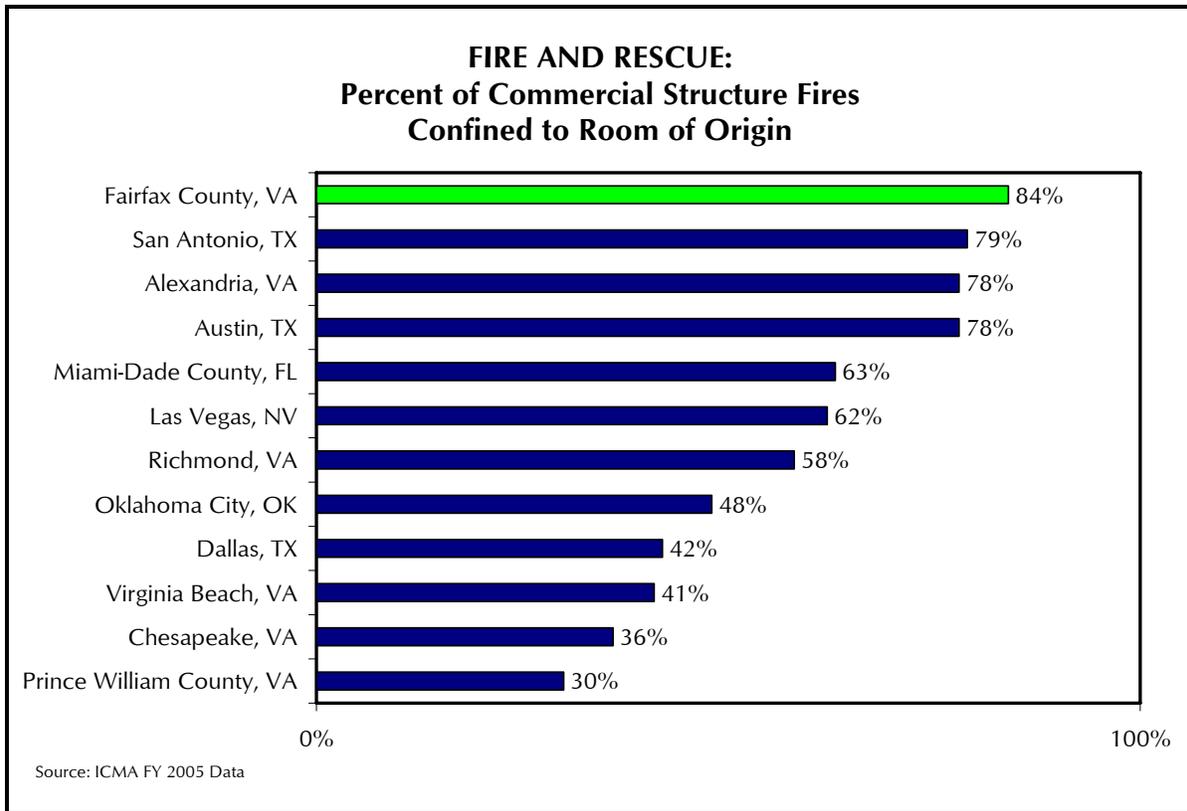
FIRE AND RESCUE: Percent of Residential Structure Fires Confined to Room of Origin: One- and Two-Family Structures



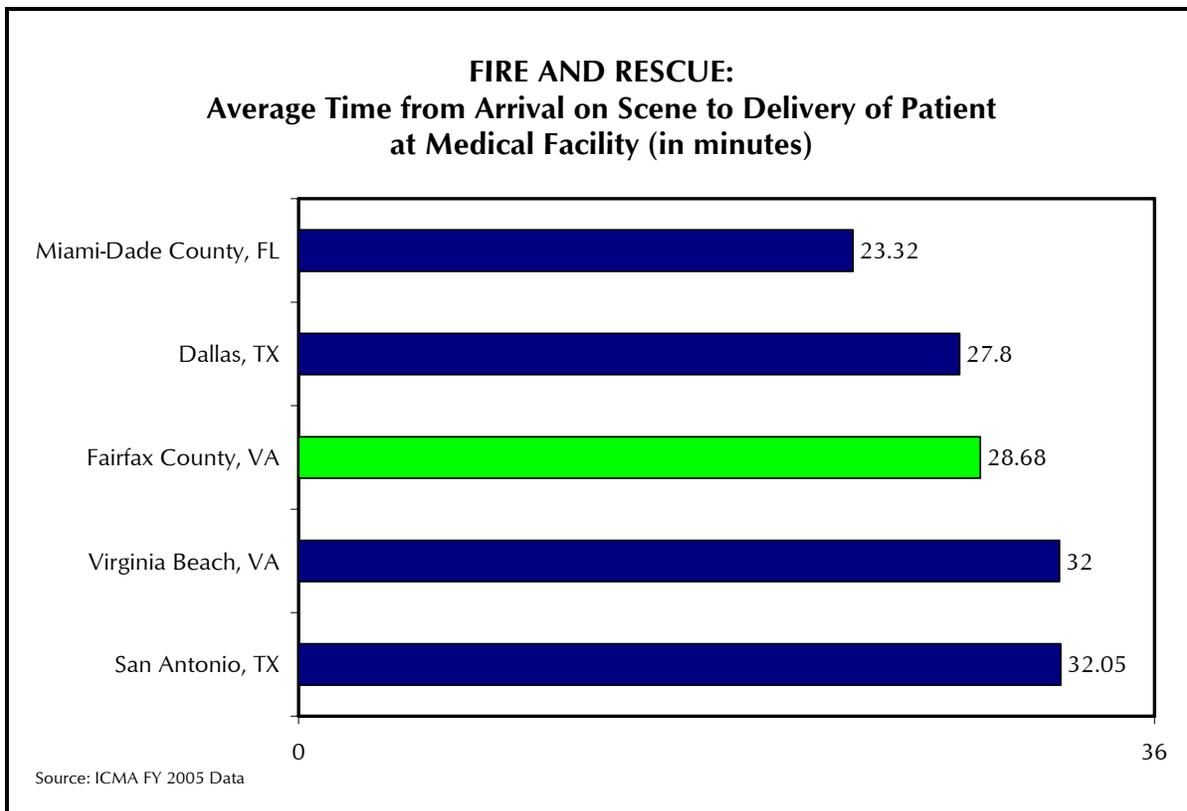
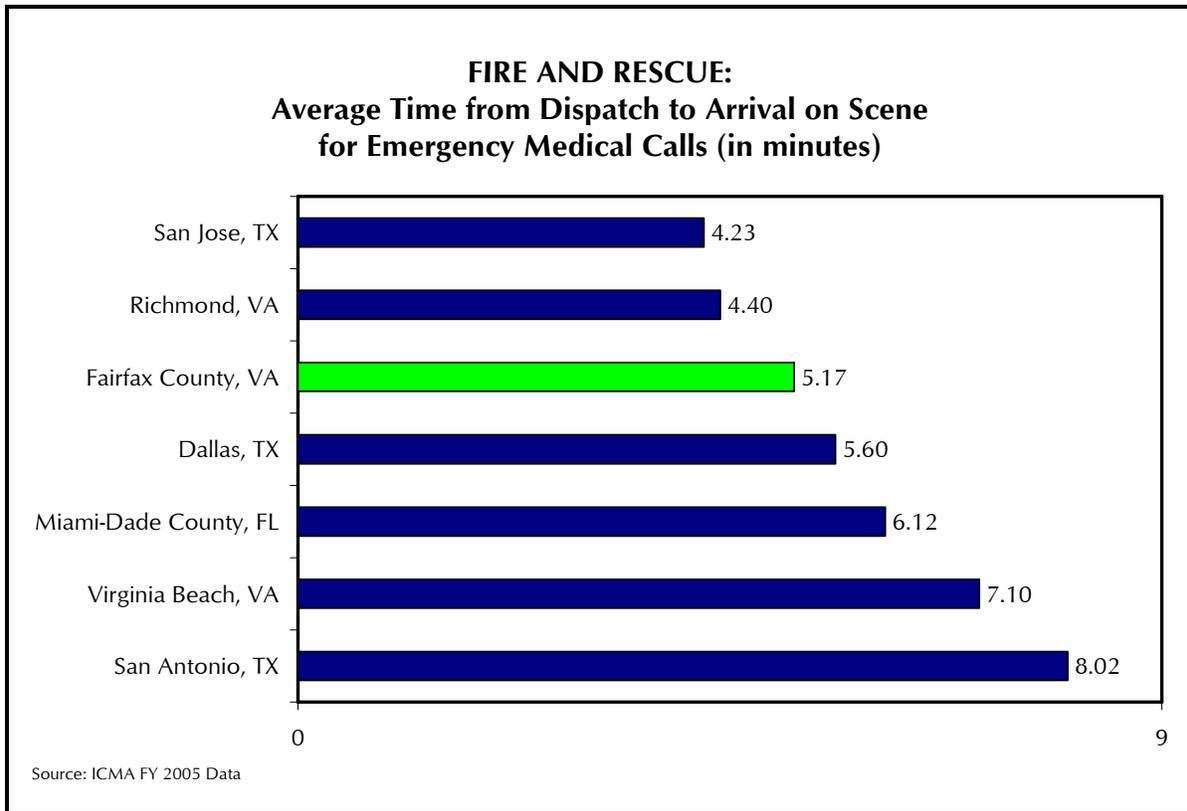
FIRE AND RESCUE: Percent of Residential Structure Fires Confined to Room of Origin: Multi-Family Structures



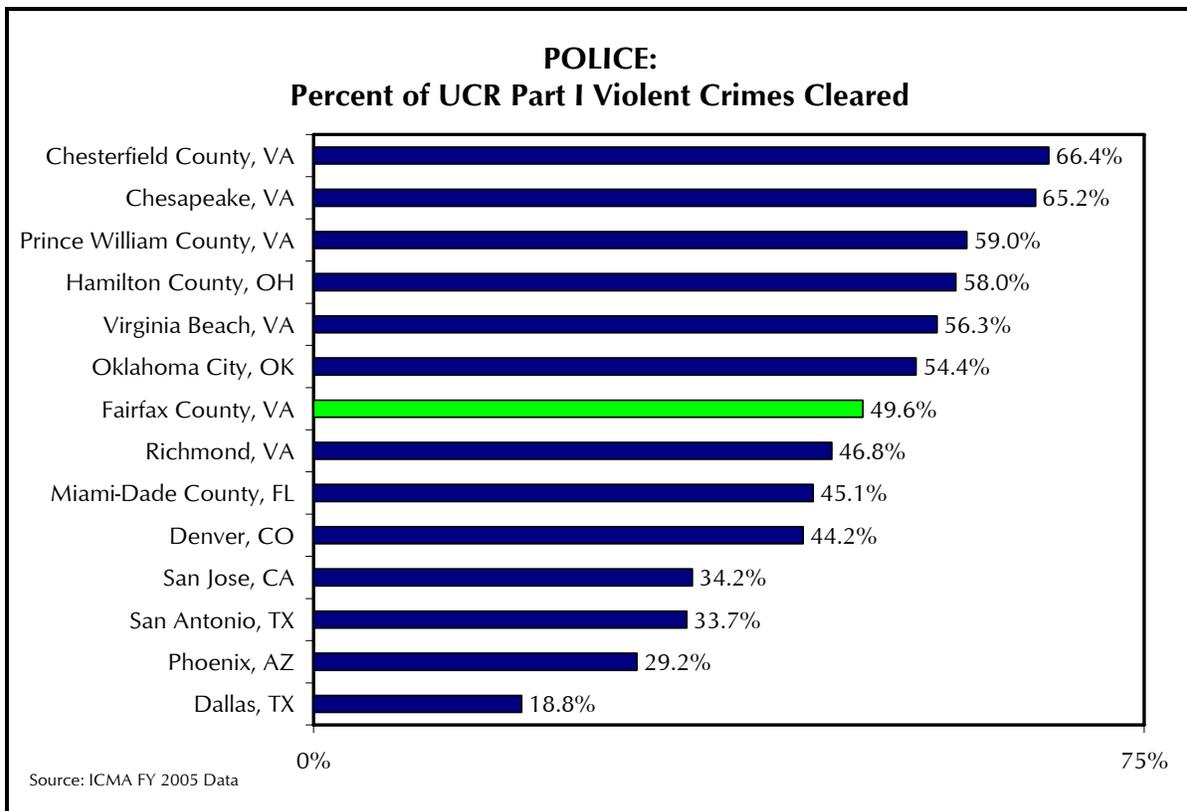
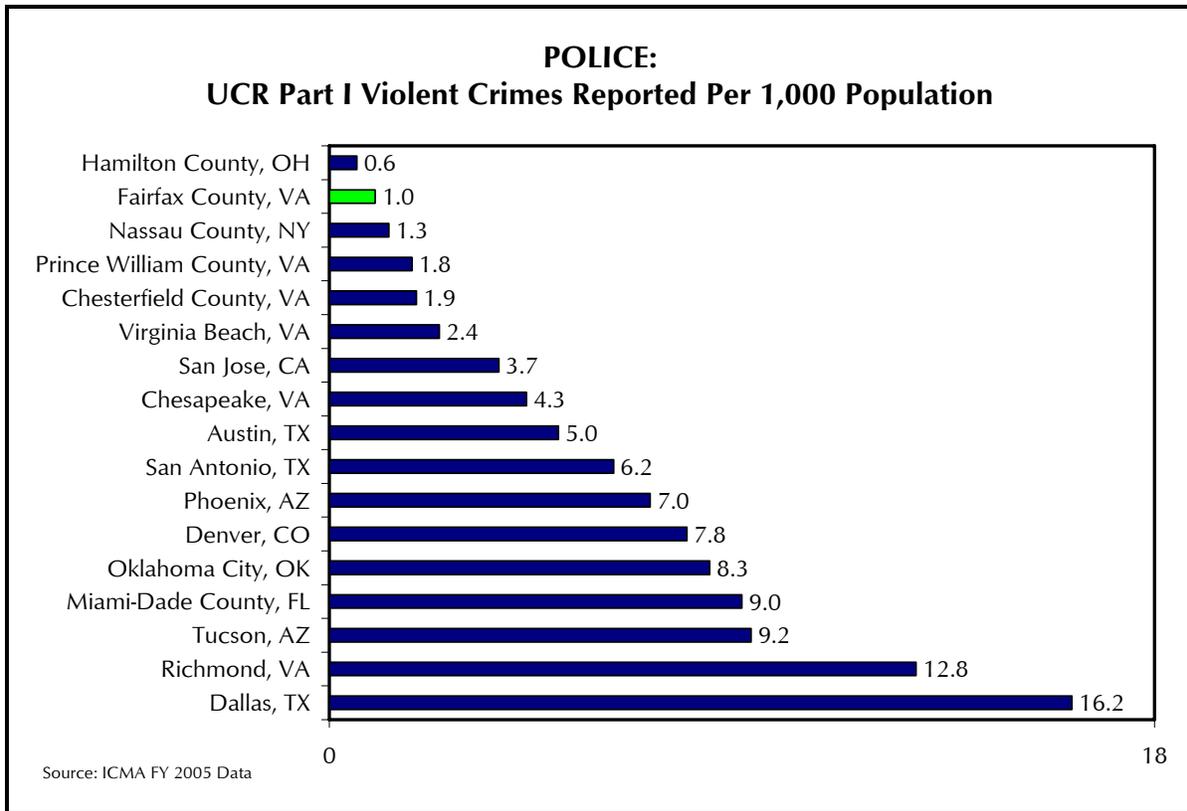
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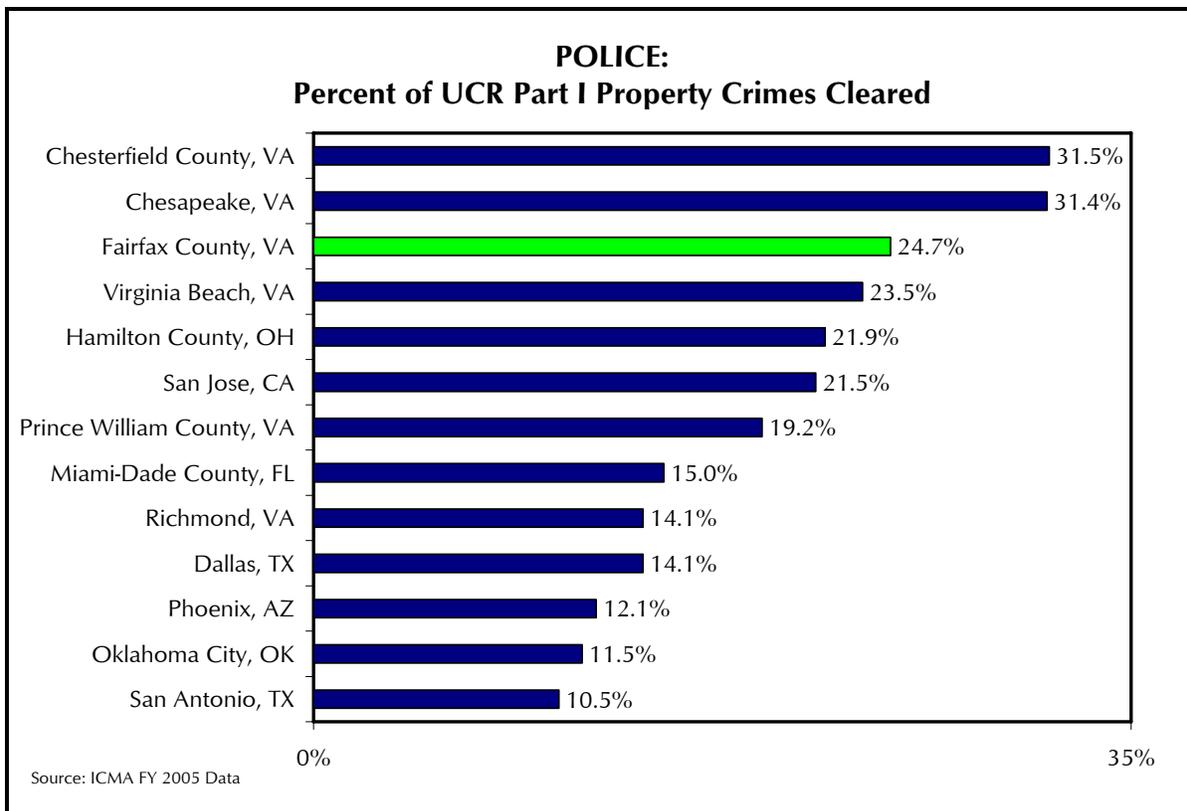
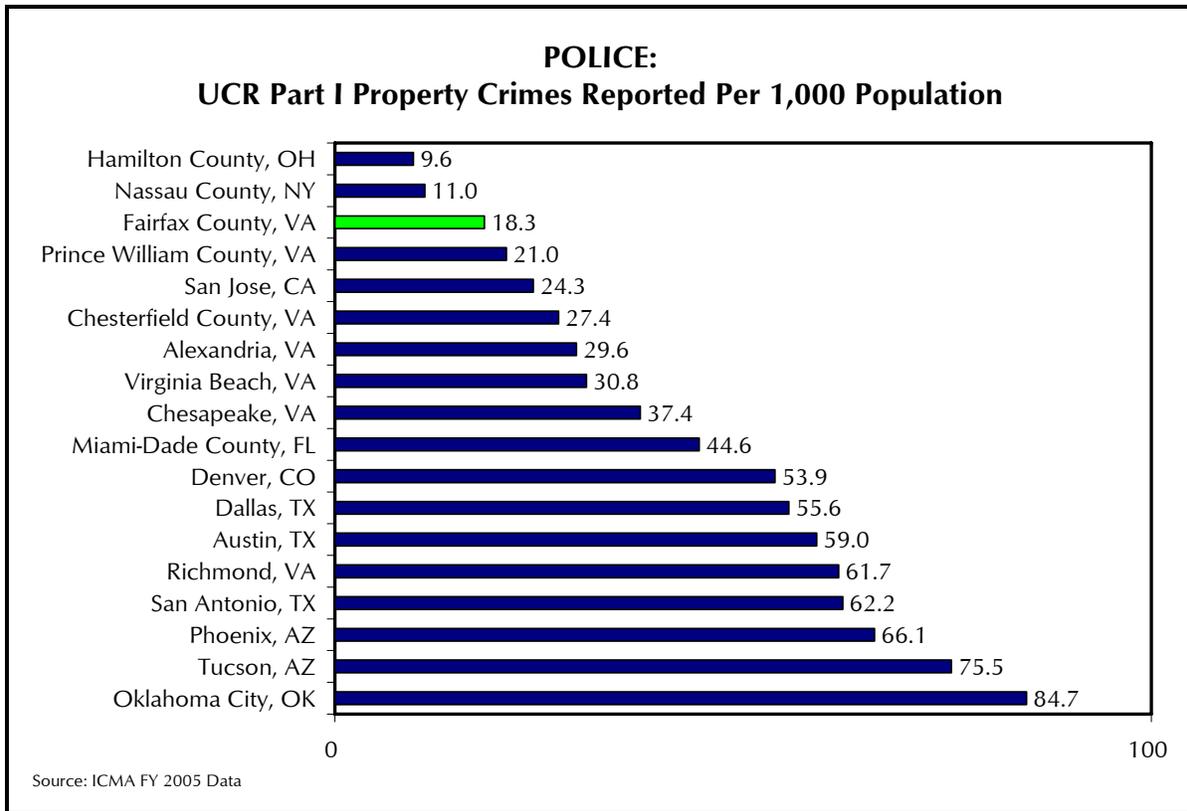
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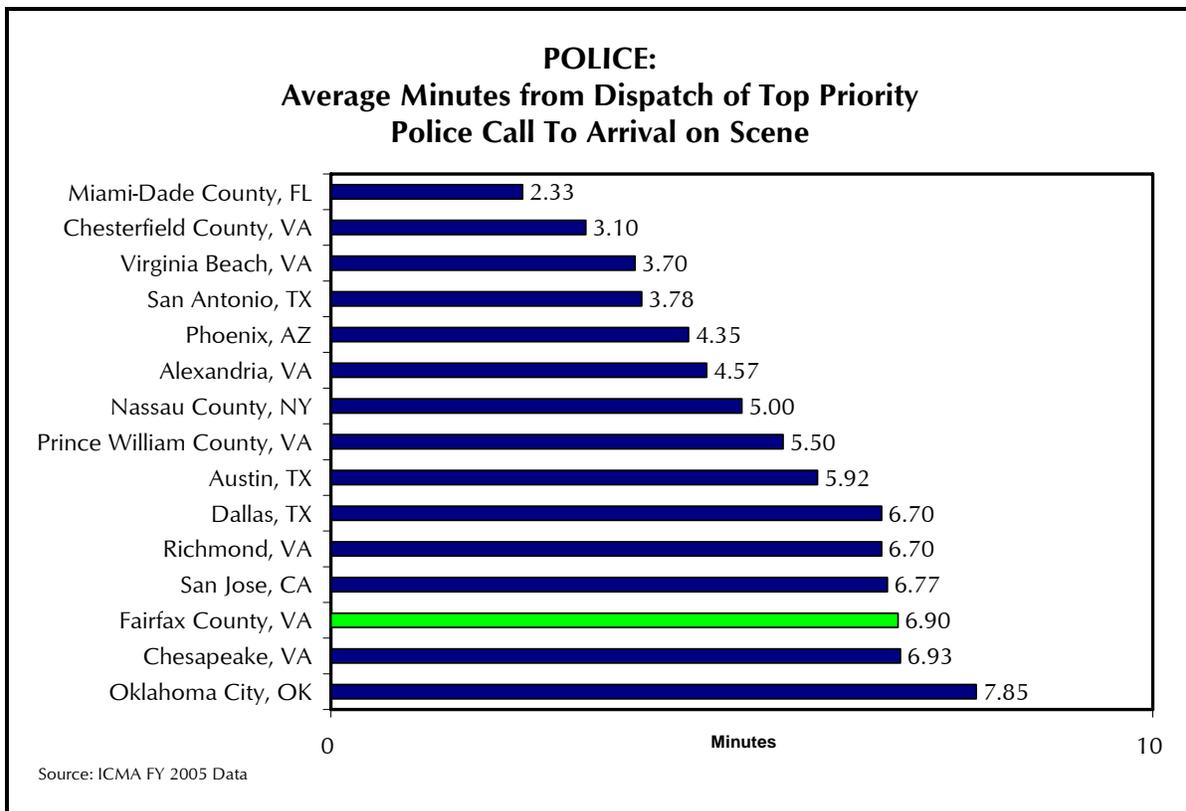
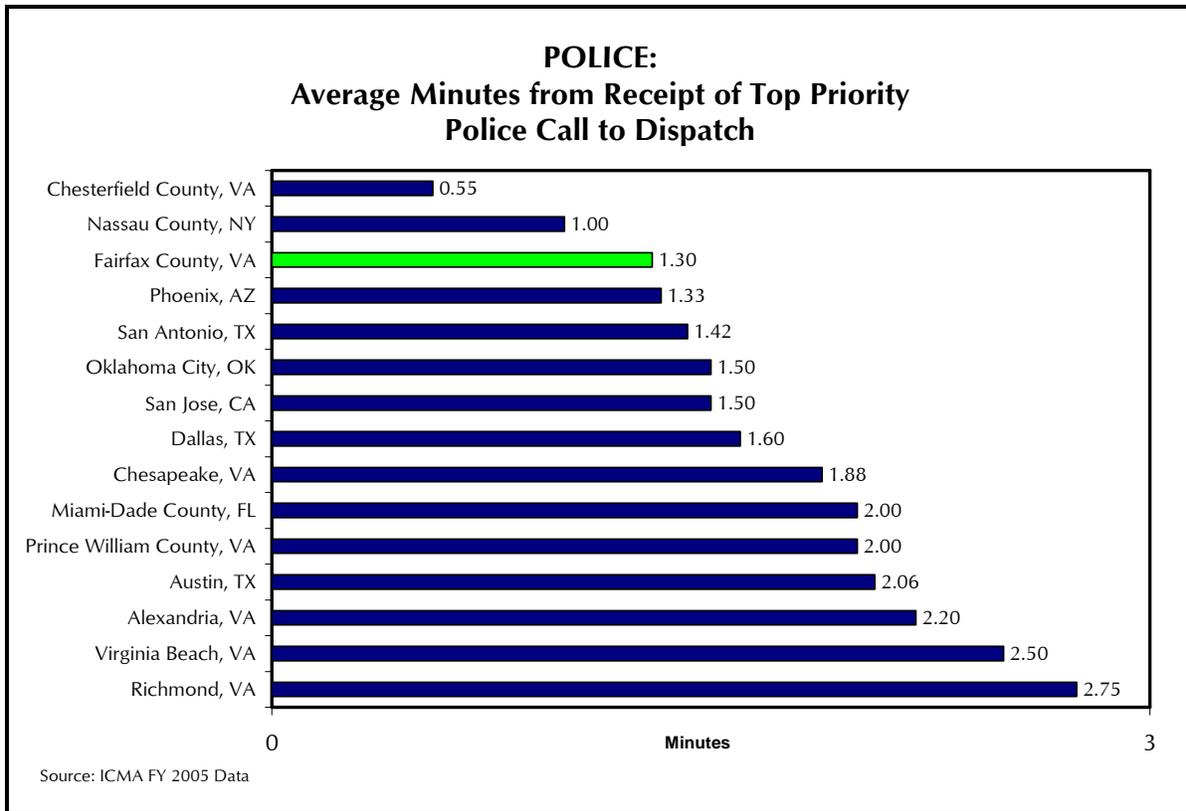
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



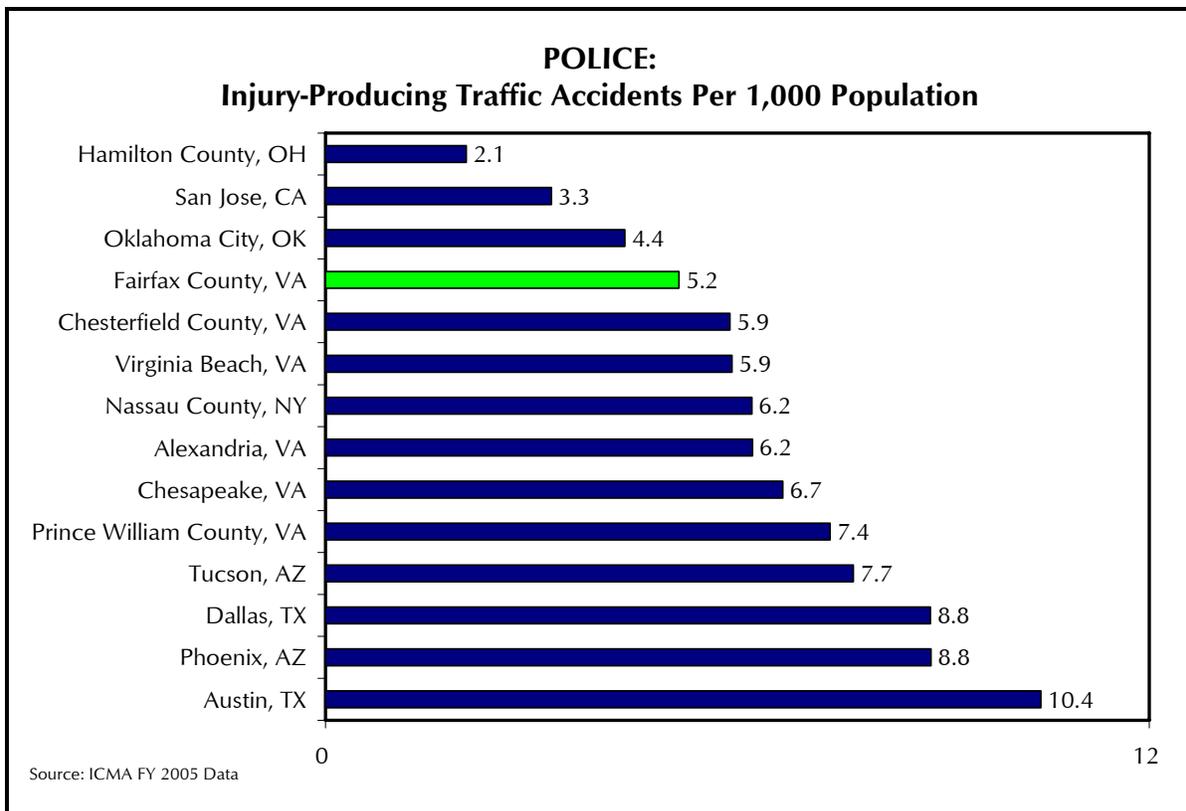
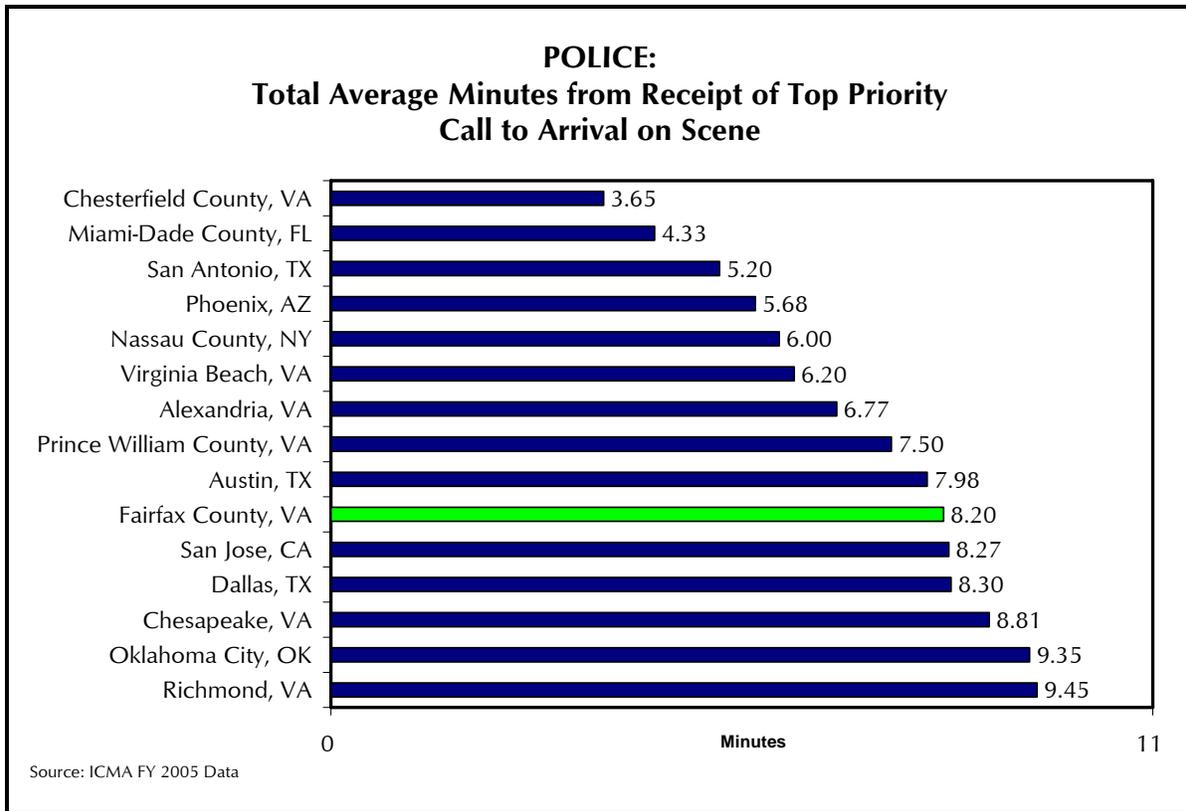
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



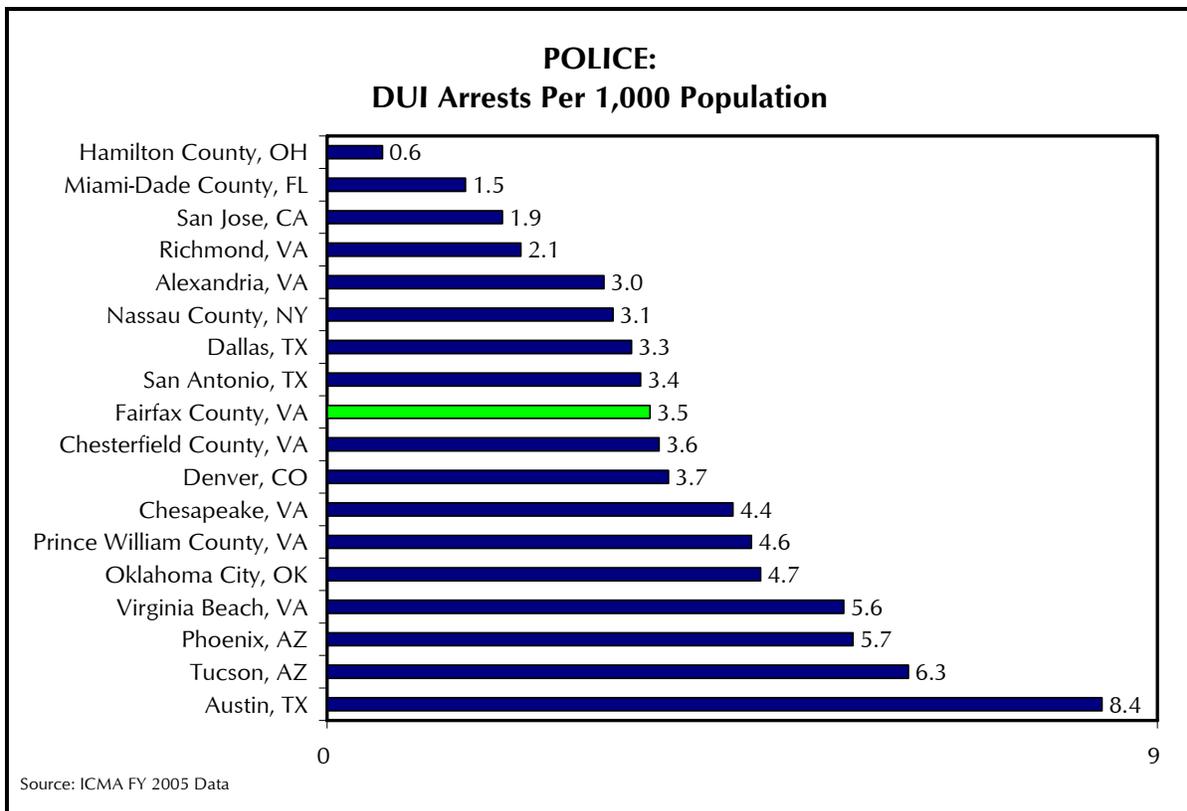
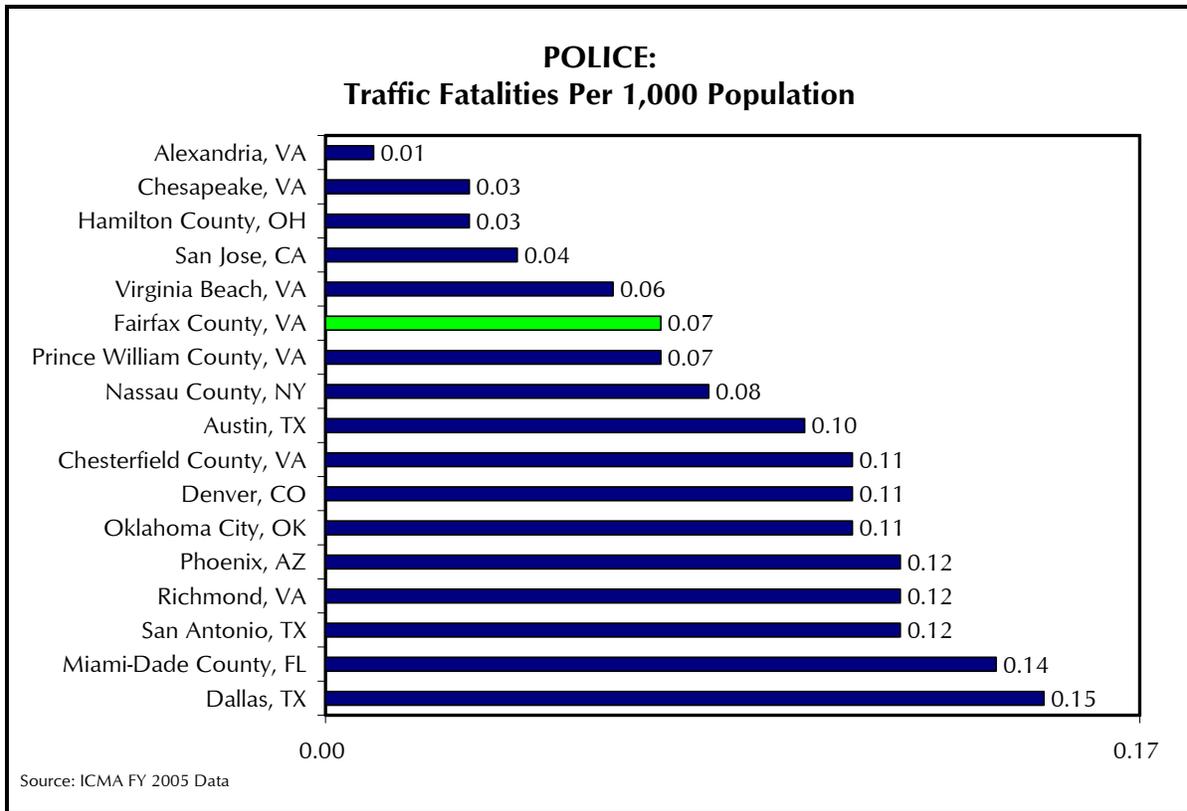
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

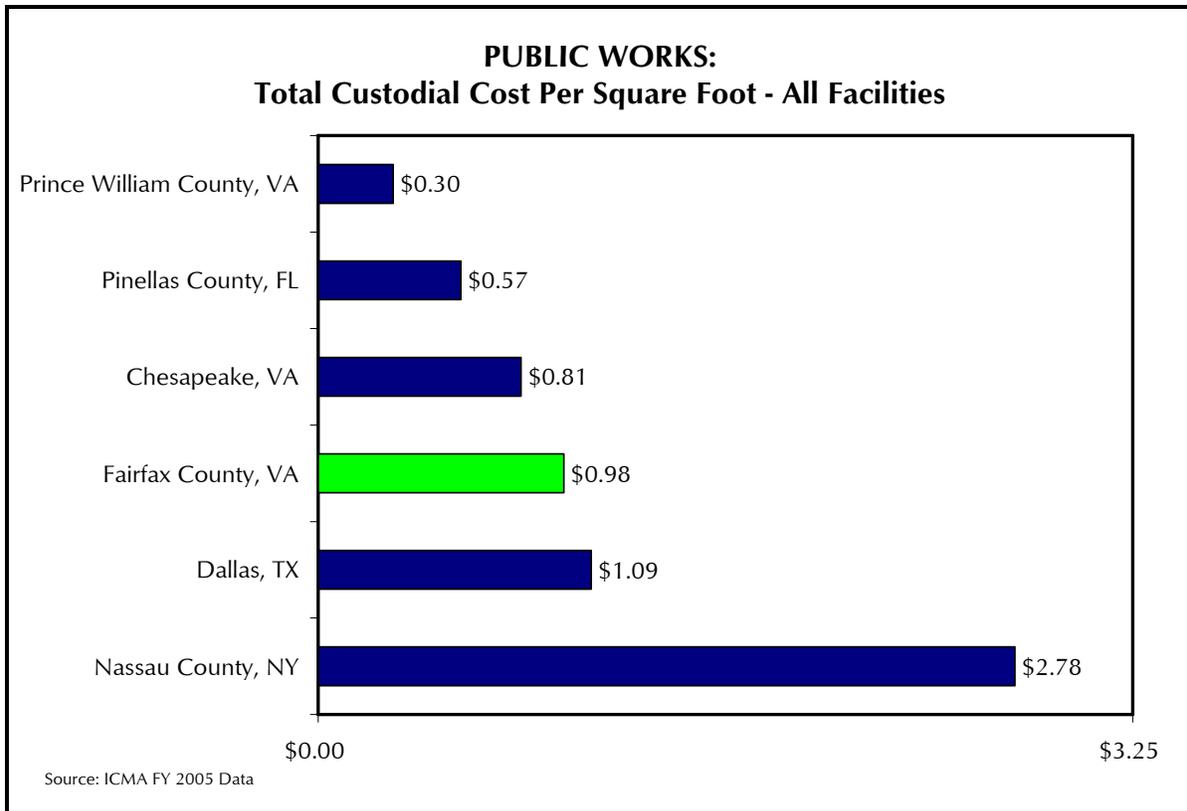
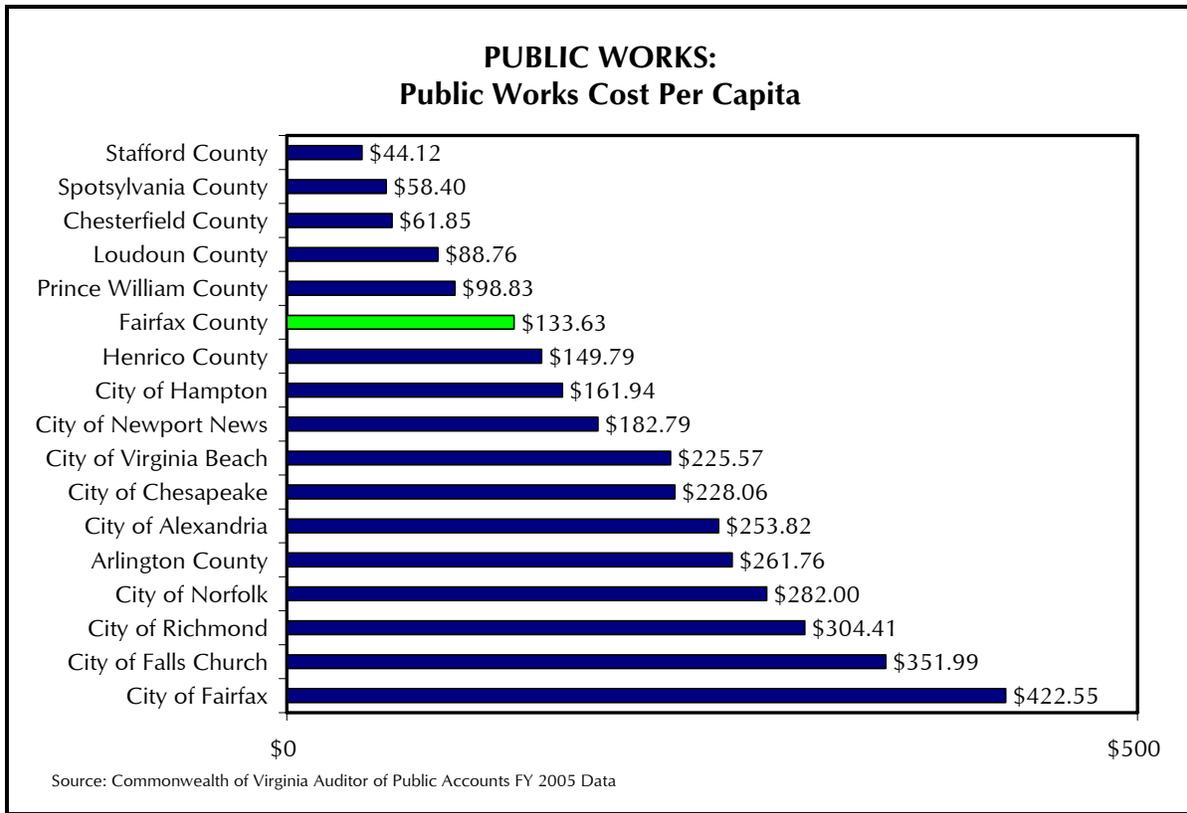
Public Works Program Area Benchmarking Charts

Since the FY 2005 Budget, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget as a means of demonstrating accountability to the public for results achieved. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 (General Fund) and now in Volume 2 (Other Funds) as available. Fairfax County has participated in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort since 2000. Approximately 150 cities and counties now provide comparable data annually in a number of service areas. Not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area, however. For this program area, facilities management is one of the benchmarked service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. Participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time for data collection and ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The following graphs generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia cities or counties provided data, they are included as well.

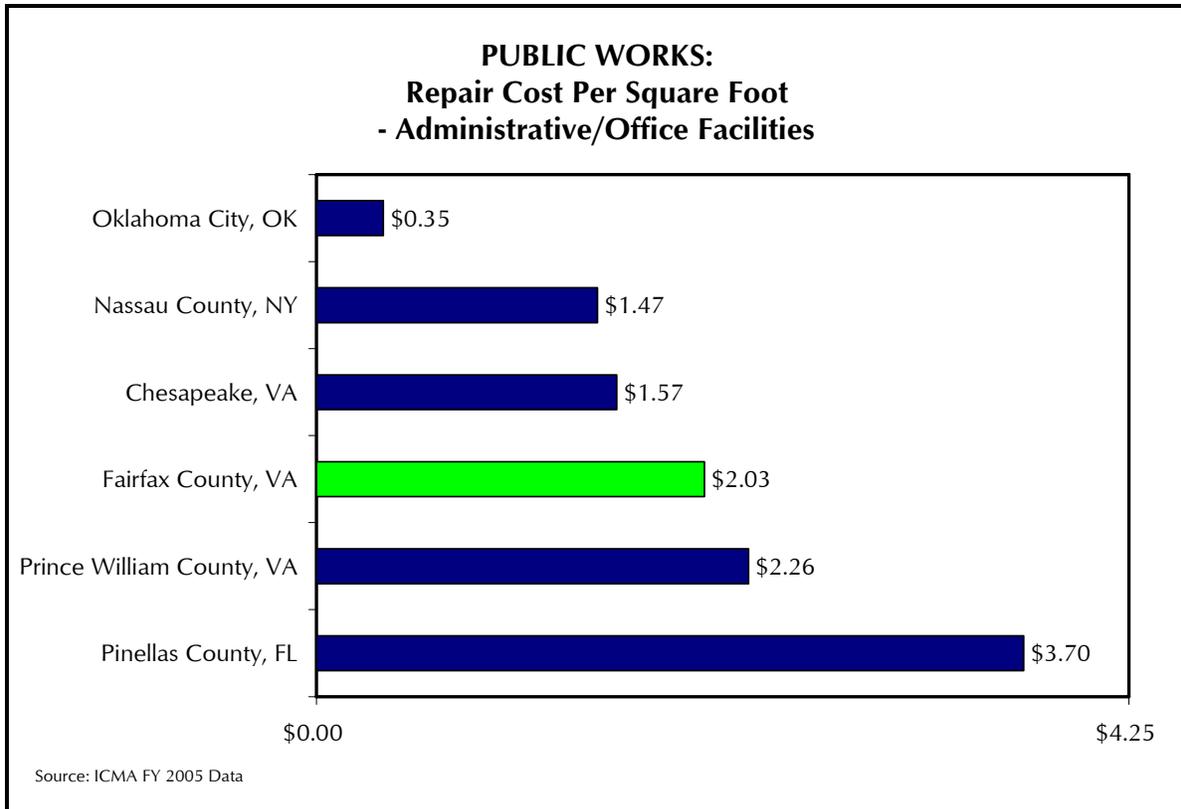
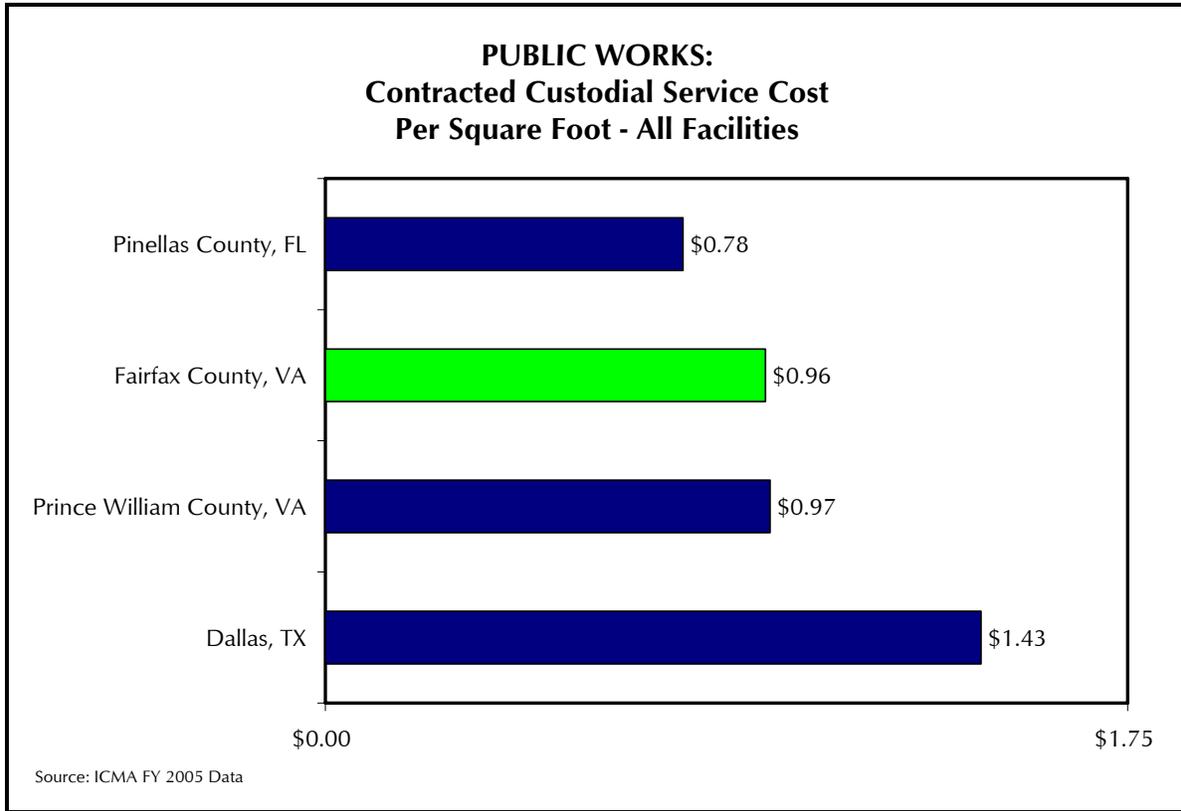
An important point to note in an effort such as this is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have shown they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. Performance is also affected by a number of variables including funding levels, weather, the economy, types of services provided, local preferences and the labor market. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark.

In addition, as part of an effort to identify additional benchmarks beyond the ICMA effort, data collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia are also included here. Again, due to the time necessary for data collection and cleaning, FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available. An advantage to including these benchmarks is the comparability. In Virginia, local governments follow stringent guidelines regarding the classification of program area expenses. Cost data are provided annually to the APA for review and compilation in an annual report. Since these data are not prepared by any one jurisdiction, their objectivity is less questionable than they would be if collected by one of the participants. In addition, a standard methodology is consistently followed, allowing comparison over time. For each of the program areas, these comparisons of cost per capita are the first benchmarks shown in these sections. As can be seen below, Fairfax County is very competitive in terms of cost per capita for the Public Works Program Area. Likewise, other cost per square foot comparisons show that Fairfax County is also competitive with other large jurisdictions that responded to the various template questions.

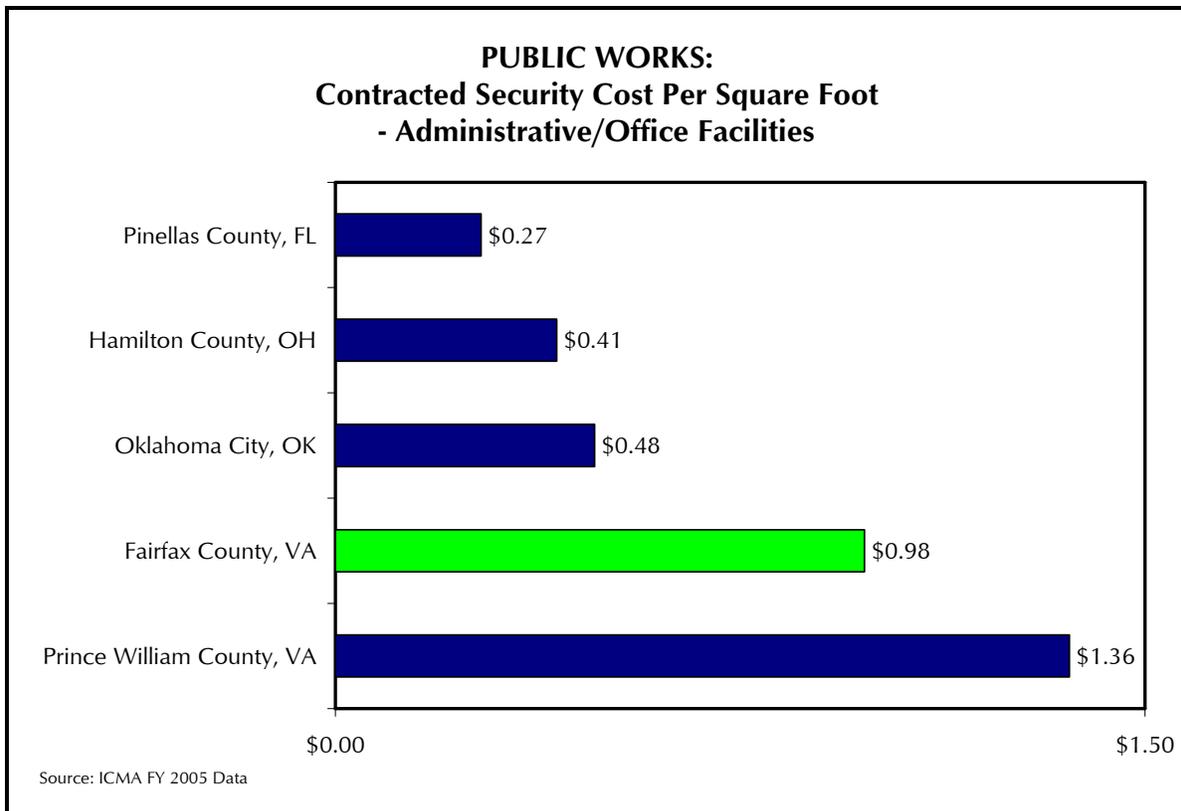
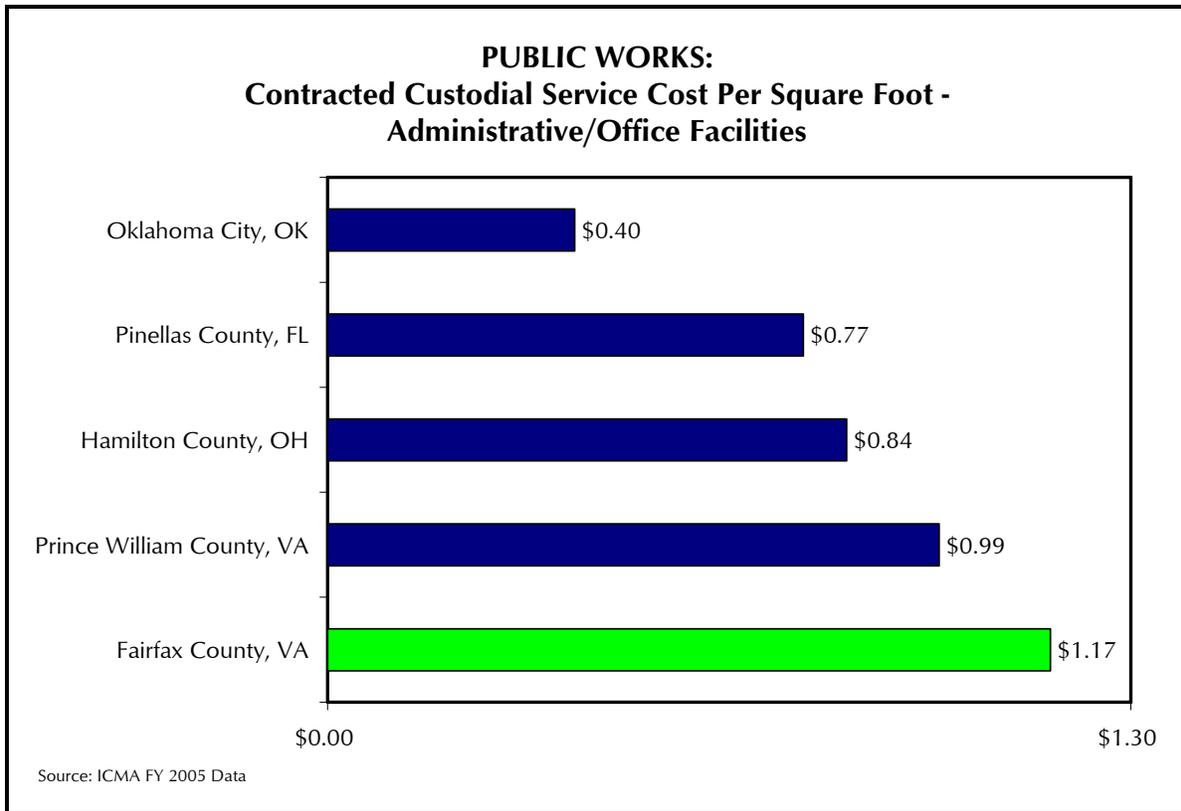
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



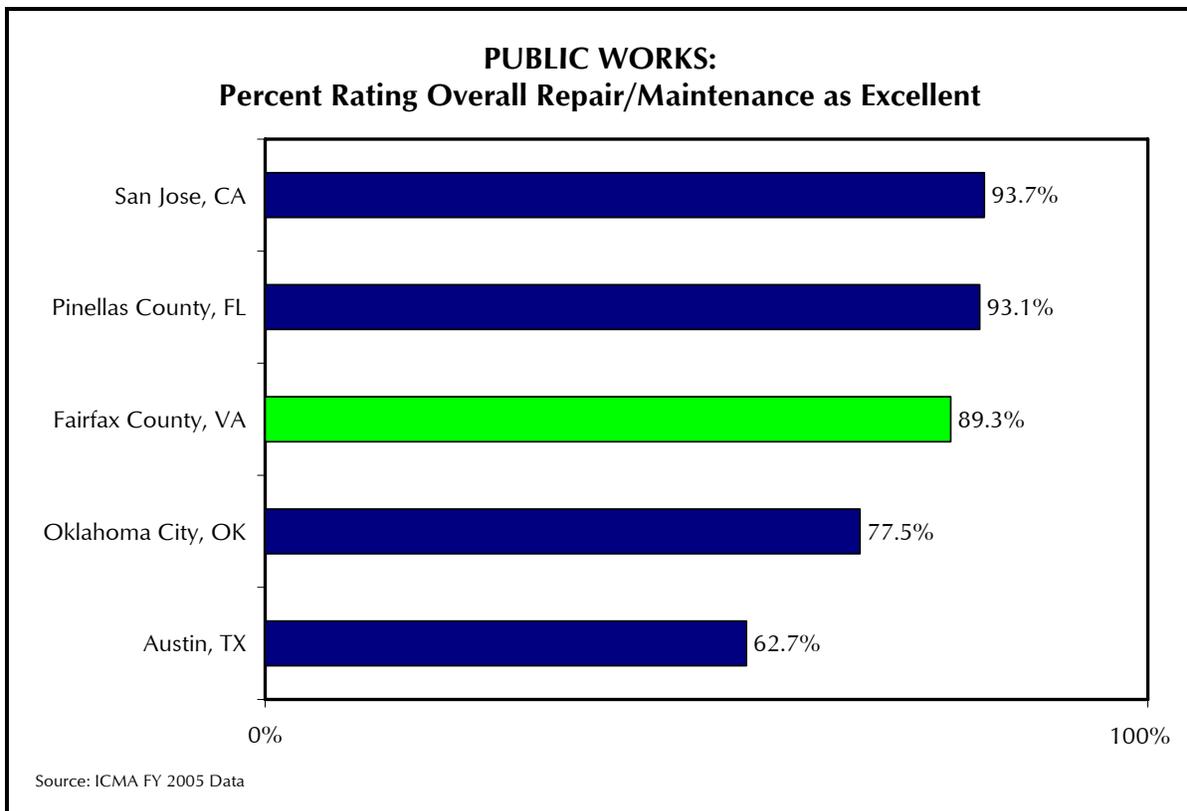
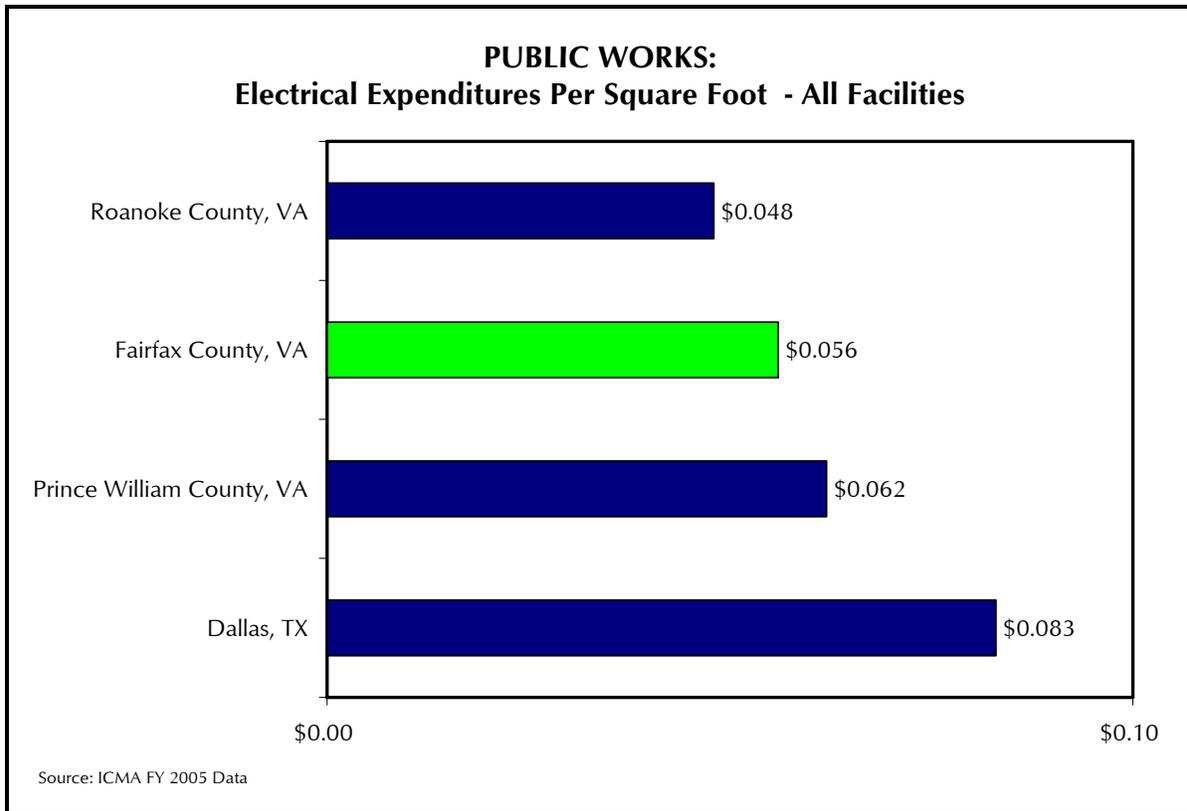
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

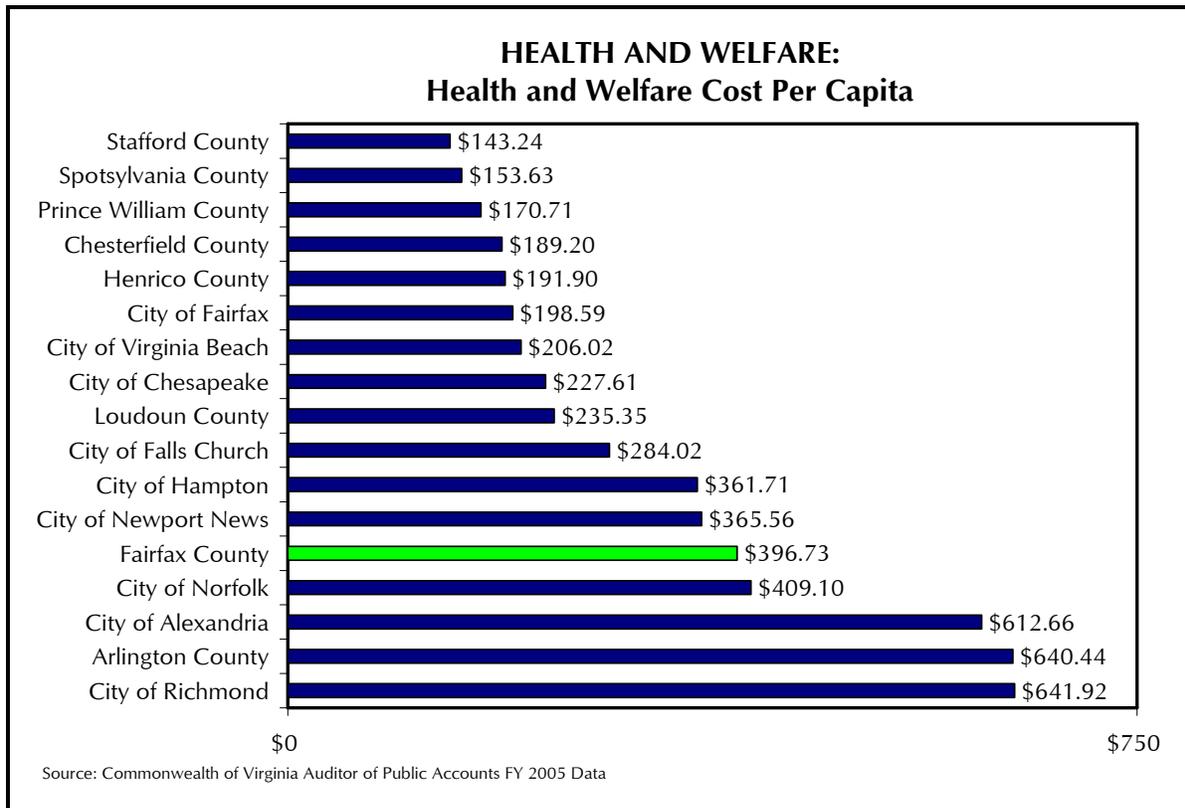
Health and Welfare Program Area Benchmarking Charts

Comparative performance information for the Health and Welfare Program Area comes from a variety of sources. This is in fact, one of the richer program areas for benchmarking due to the wide variety of programs and statistics that are collected for them. Data included for this program area were obtained from the Commonwealth of Virginia's Auditor of Public Accounts (APA), the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Social Services.

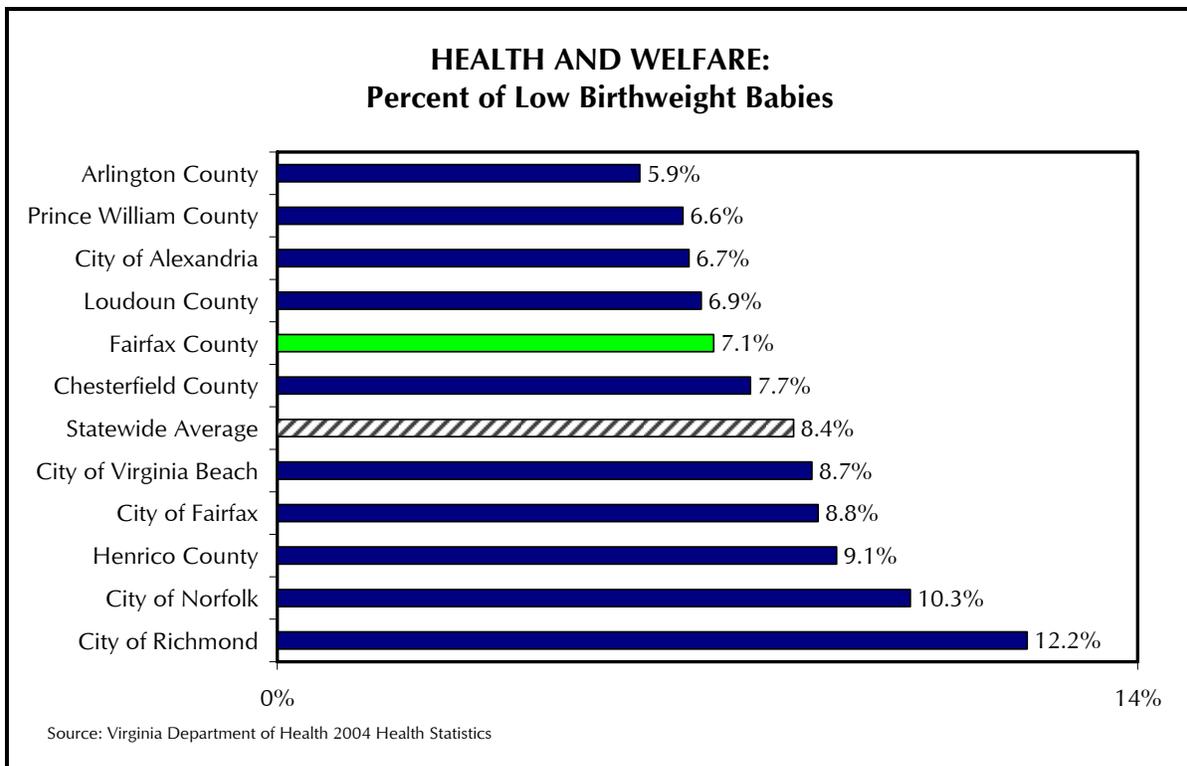
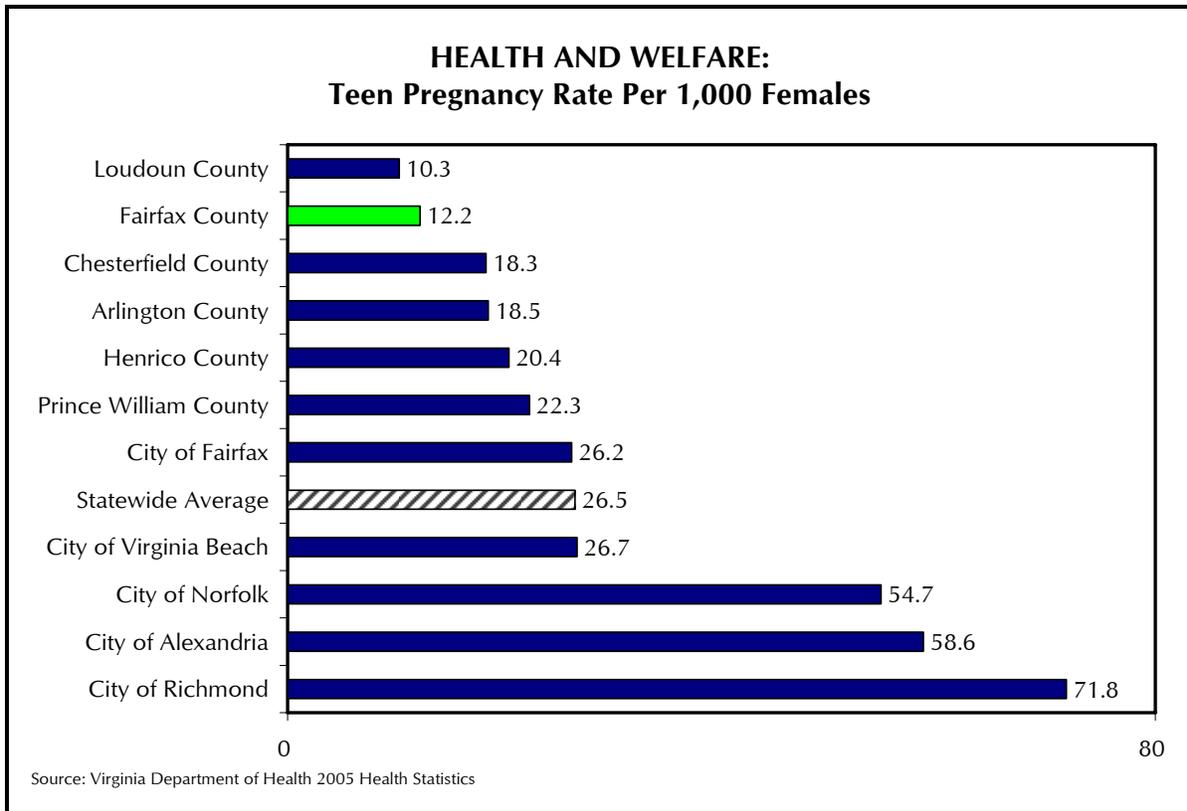
The APA collects financial data annually from all Virginia jurisdictions. Due to the timeframe involved in collecting and verifying the data, FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available. As seen below, Fairfax County's cost per capita for Health and Welfare indicates the high level of local support for these programs and reflects the County's increasing urbanization that brings its own challenges in terms of human service needs.

Data provided by the Virginia Department of Health are included to show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions in the state, as well as the statewide average in the areas of teen pregnancy rate, low birthweight and infant mortality. Again, due to the timeframe for collecting and verifying data, 2005 represents the most recent year for these statistics, except for Percent of Low Birthweight Babies, which had not yet been updated by the state as of publication of this budget. Therefore, 2004 data are included pending the release of more recent data.

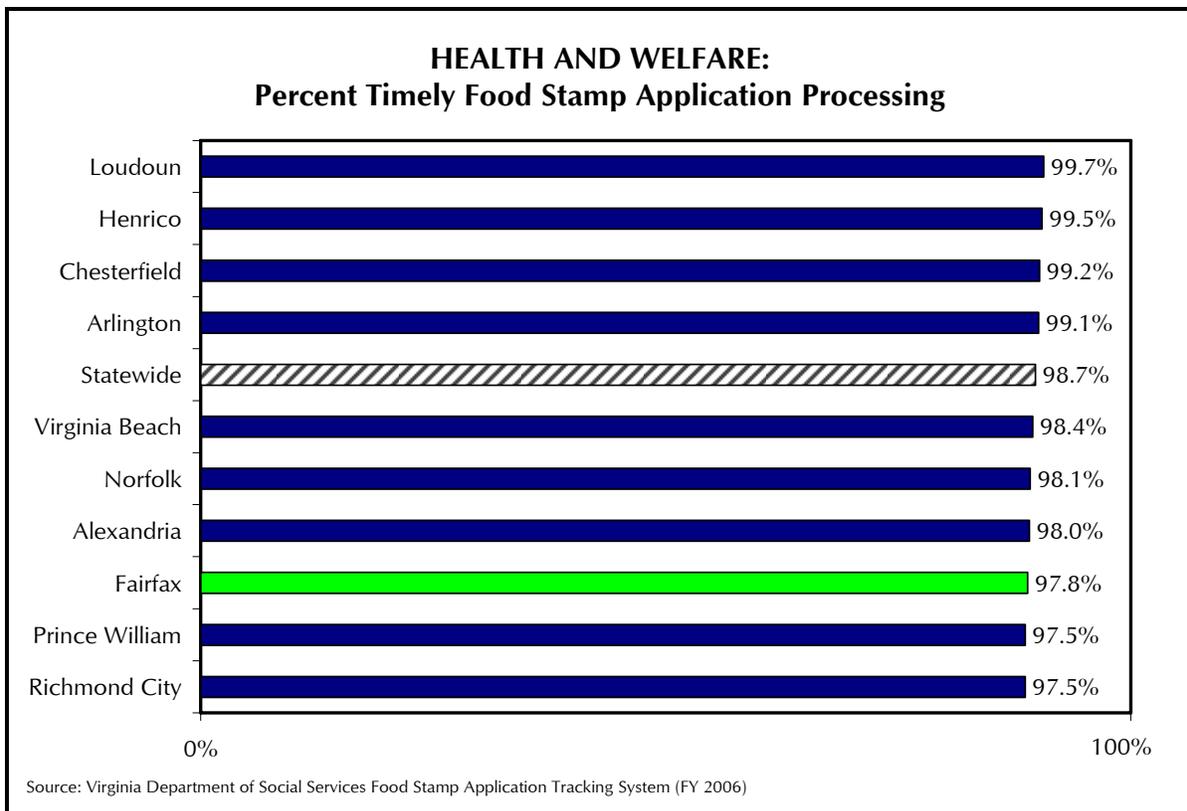
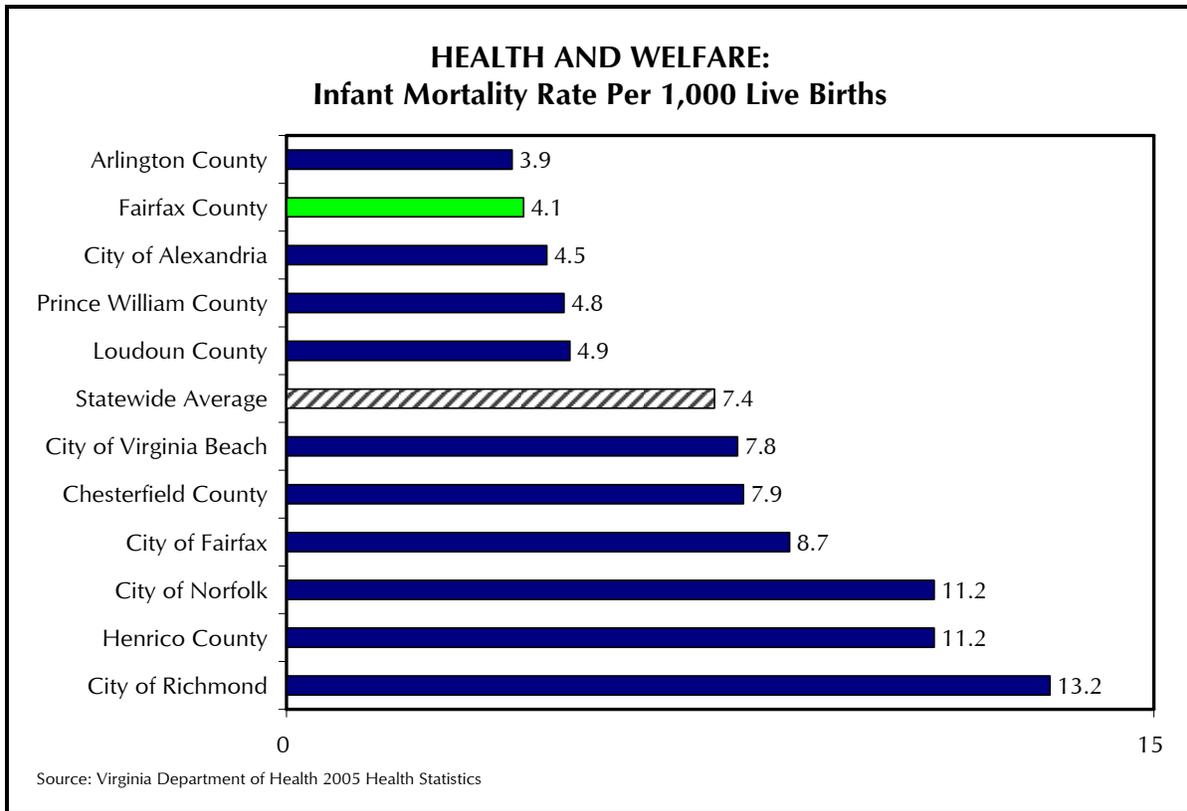
Another source included is the Virginia Department of Social Services which collects comparative data for various programs including Food Stamps, VIEW (Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare), Children in Foster Care and Rates of Abuse per 1,000 Children. Fairfax County data are presented in comparison to other larger jurisdictions in the state and show a fairly high level of performance.



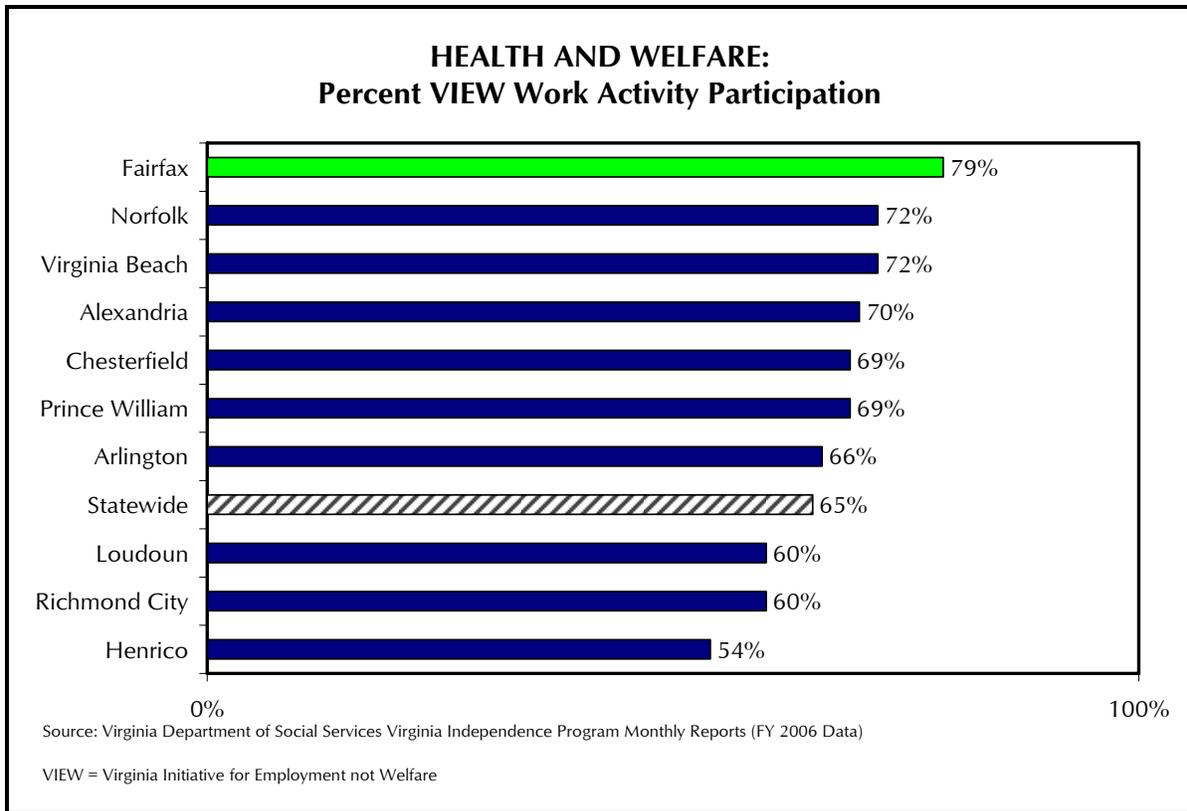
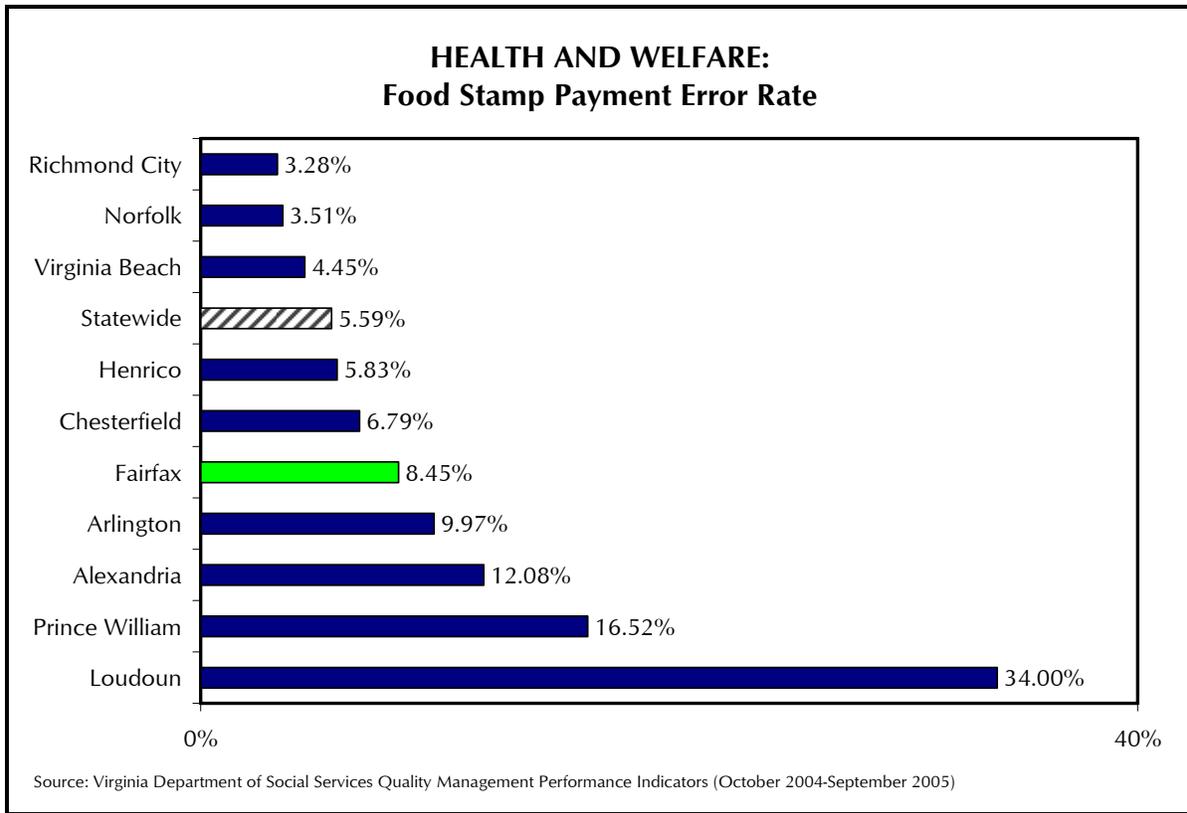
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



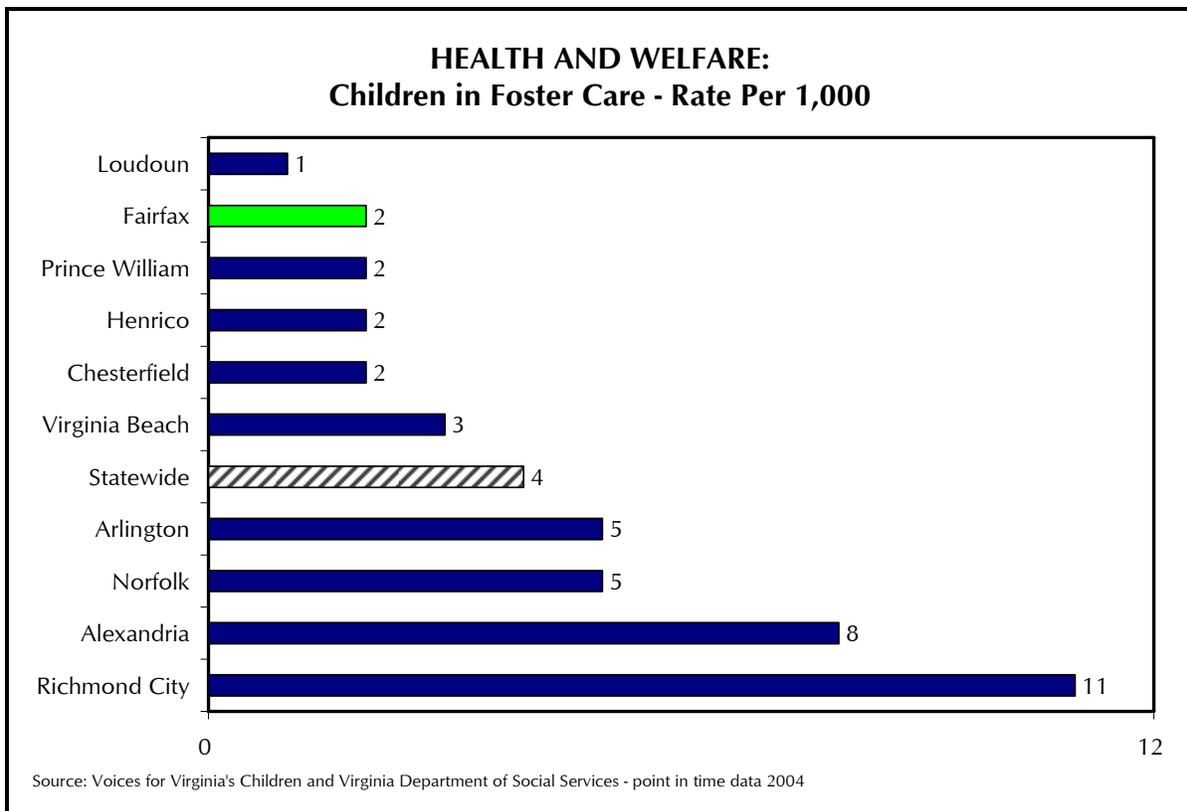
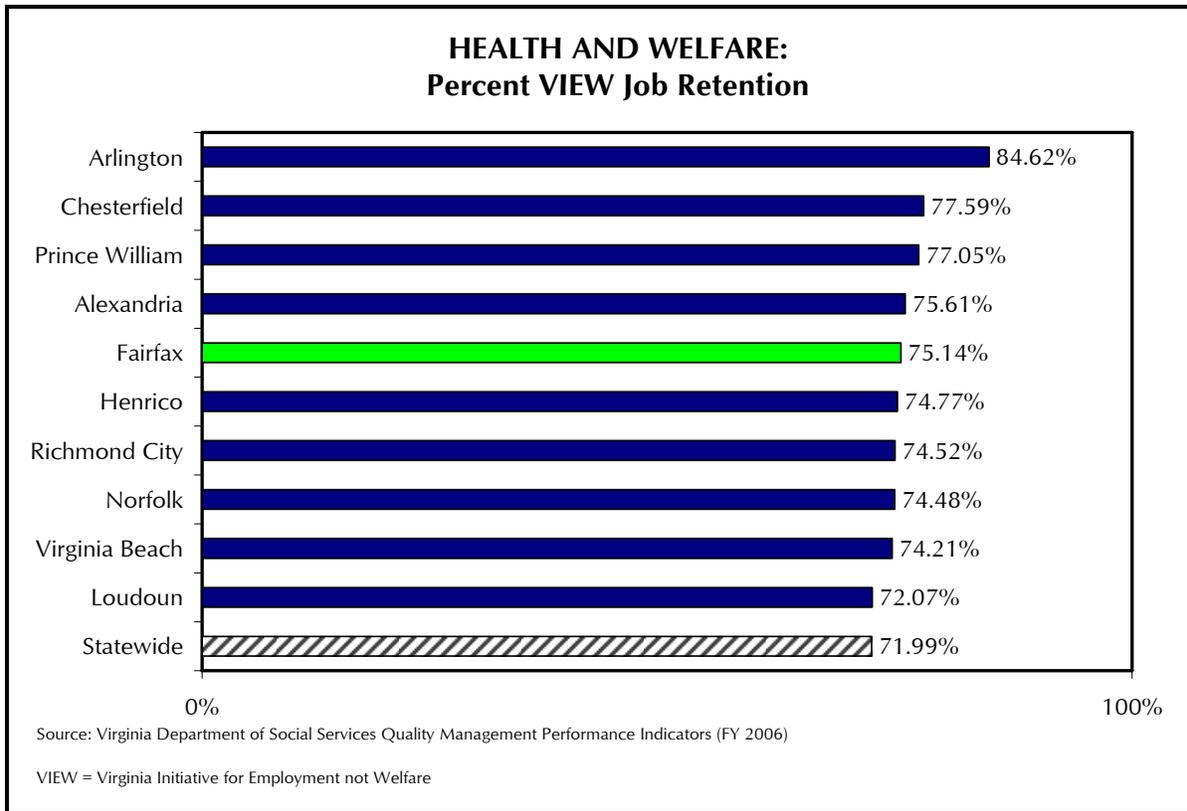
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



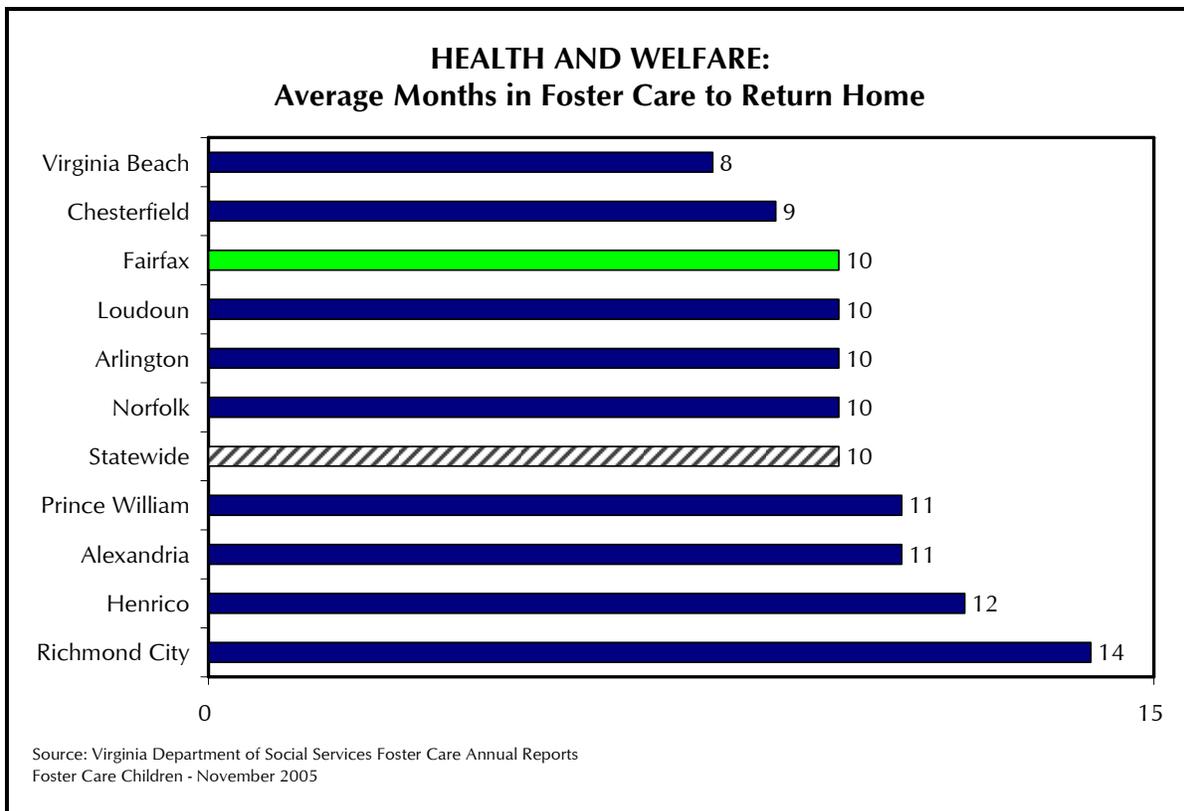
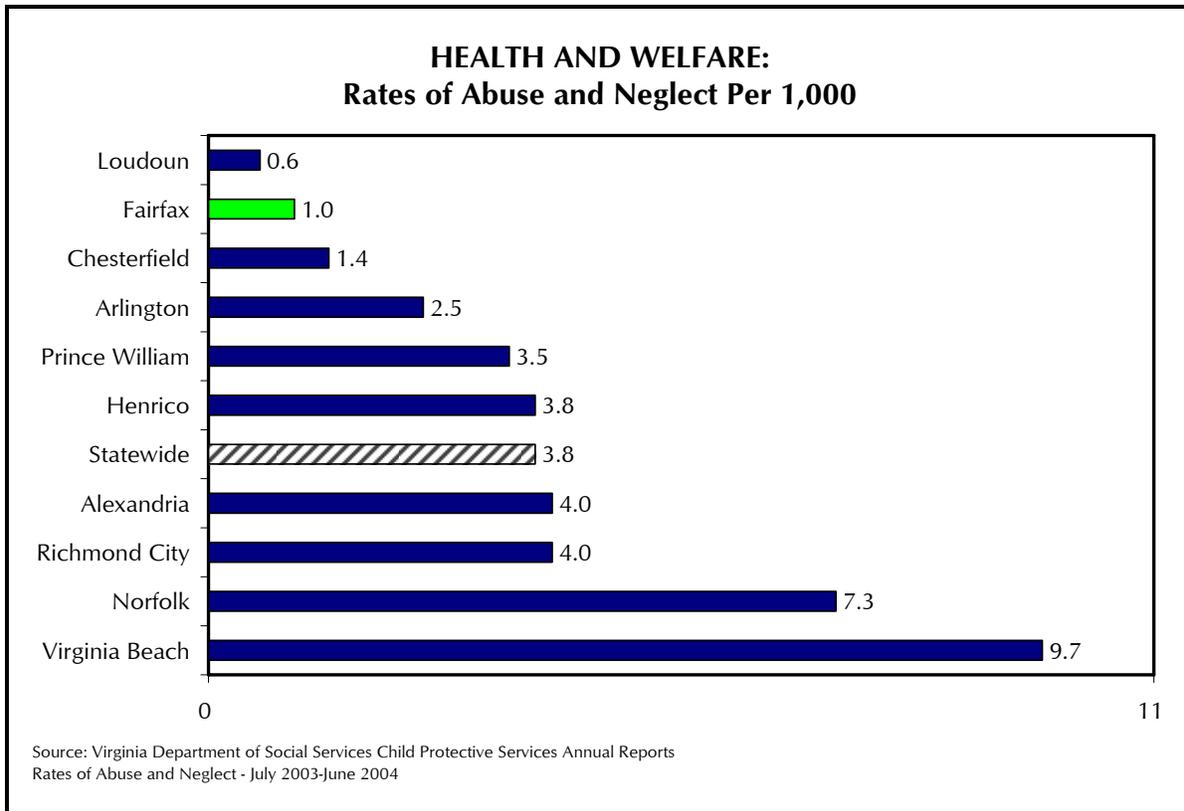
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Parks, Recreation and Libraries Program Area Benchmarking Charts

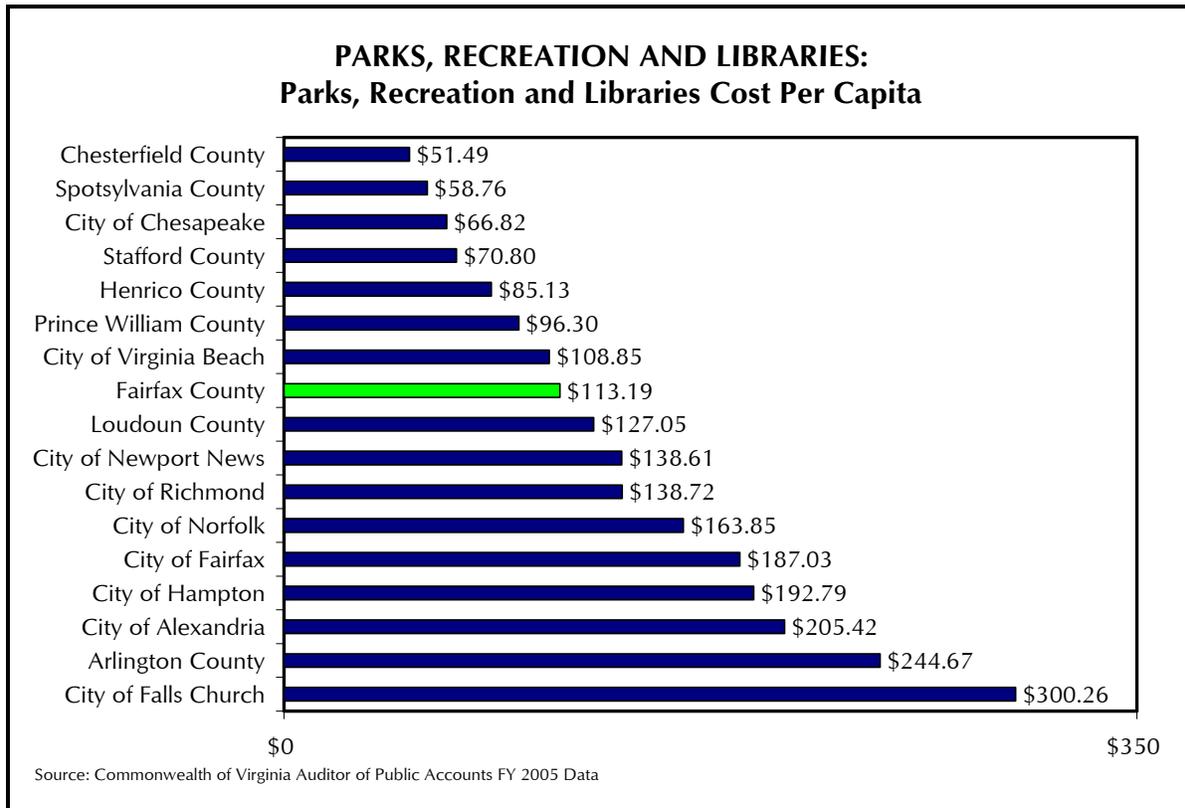
As a means of demonstrating accountability to the public for results achieved, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget since the FY 2005 Budget. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 (General Fund) and now in Volume 2 (Other Funds) as available. The first benchmarking statistic presented for each program area is a cost per capita comparison collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Due to the time required for data collection and cleaning, FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available. An advantage to including these benchmarks is the comparability. In Virginia, local governments follow stringent guidelines regarding the classification of program area expenses. Cost data are provided annually to the APA for review and compilation in an annual report. Since these data are not prepared by any one jurisdiction, their objectivity is less questionable than they would be if collected by one of the participants. In addition, a standard methodology is consistently followed, allowing comparison over time. Fairfax County's cost per capita for this program area is highly competitive with other large jurisdictions in the state, and particularly the other Northern Virginia localities.

A number of other benchmarks are shown that are provided through the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) comparative performance program. Fairfax County has participated in ICMA's benchmarking effort since 2000. Approximately 150 cities, counties and towns provide comparable data annually in a number of service areas. However, not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area. Parks, Recreation and Libraries represent several of the benchmarked service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. Additional program-level performance measurement data are presented within each of these agencies' budget narratives.

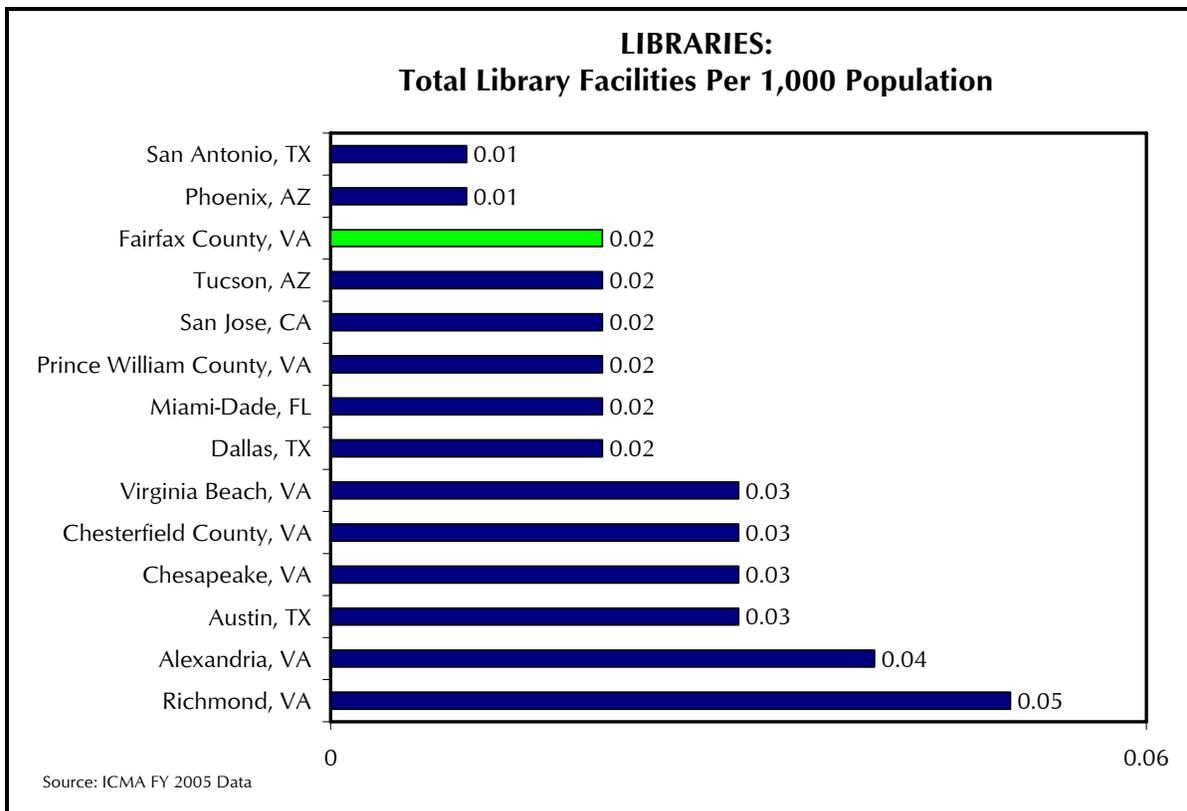
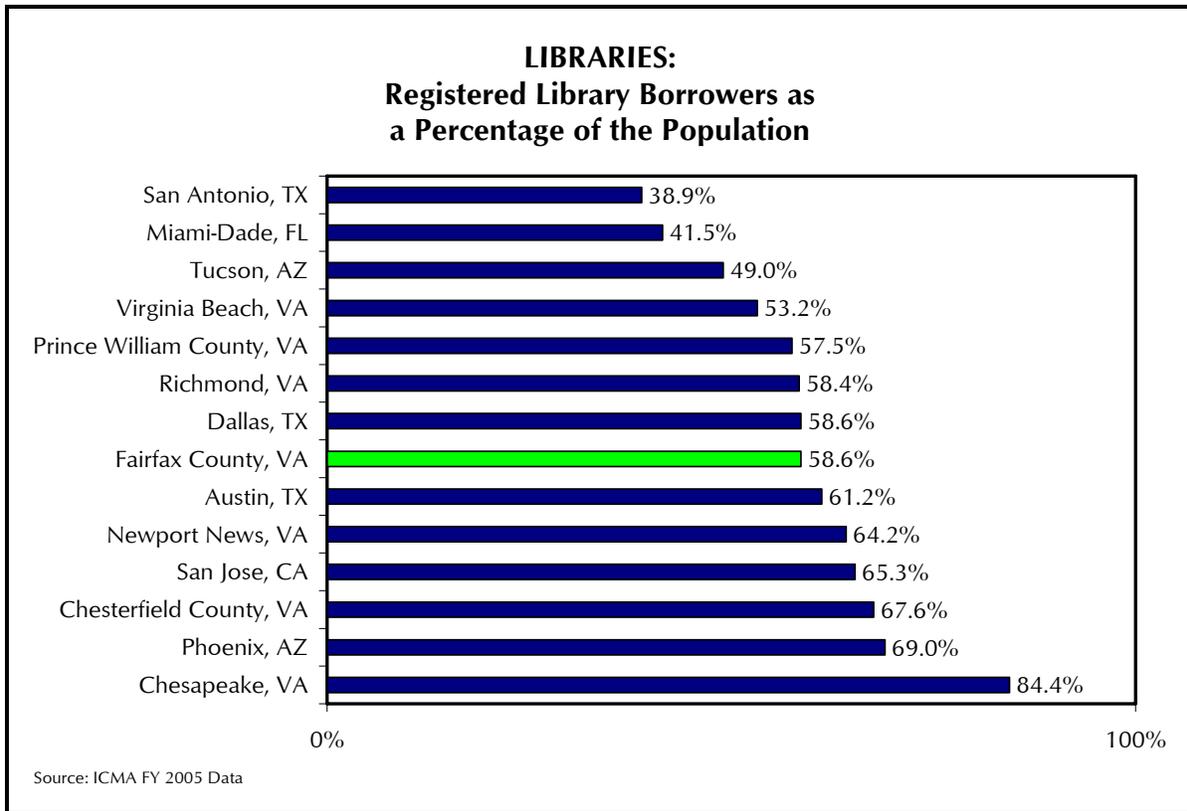
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time to collect the data and undergo ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs below generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

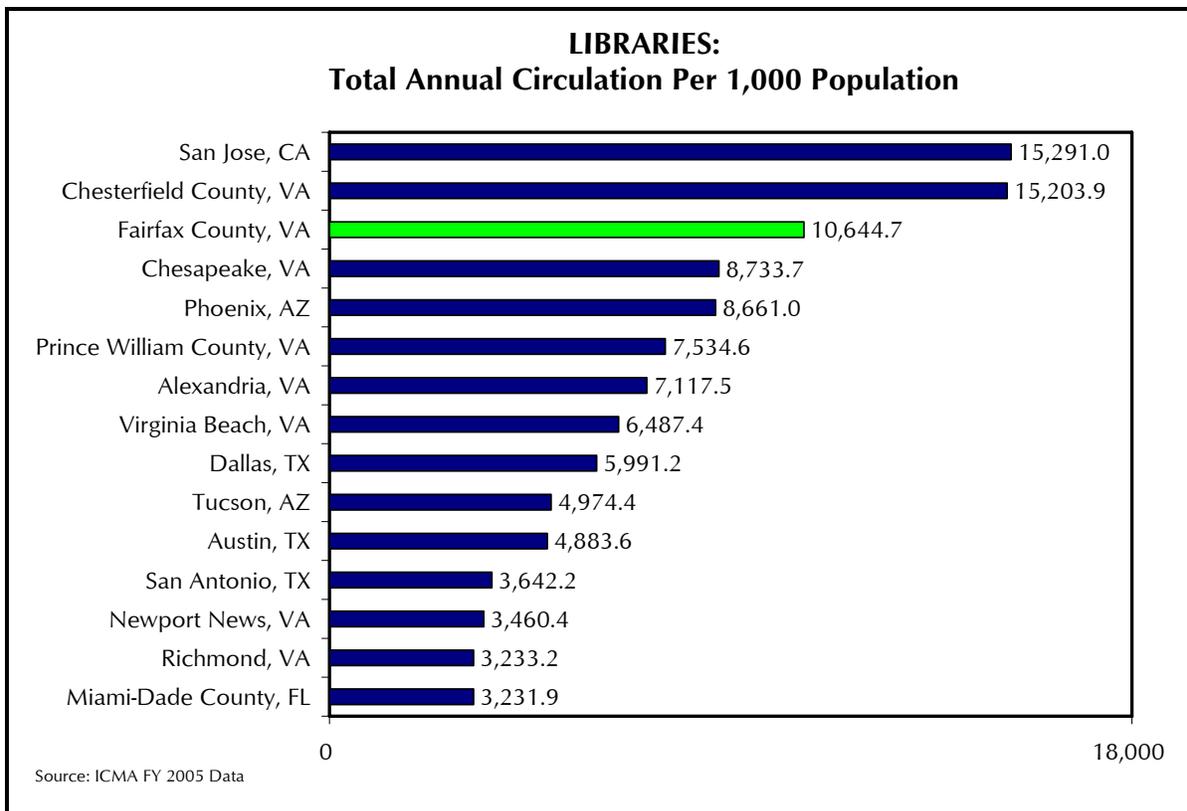
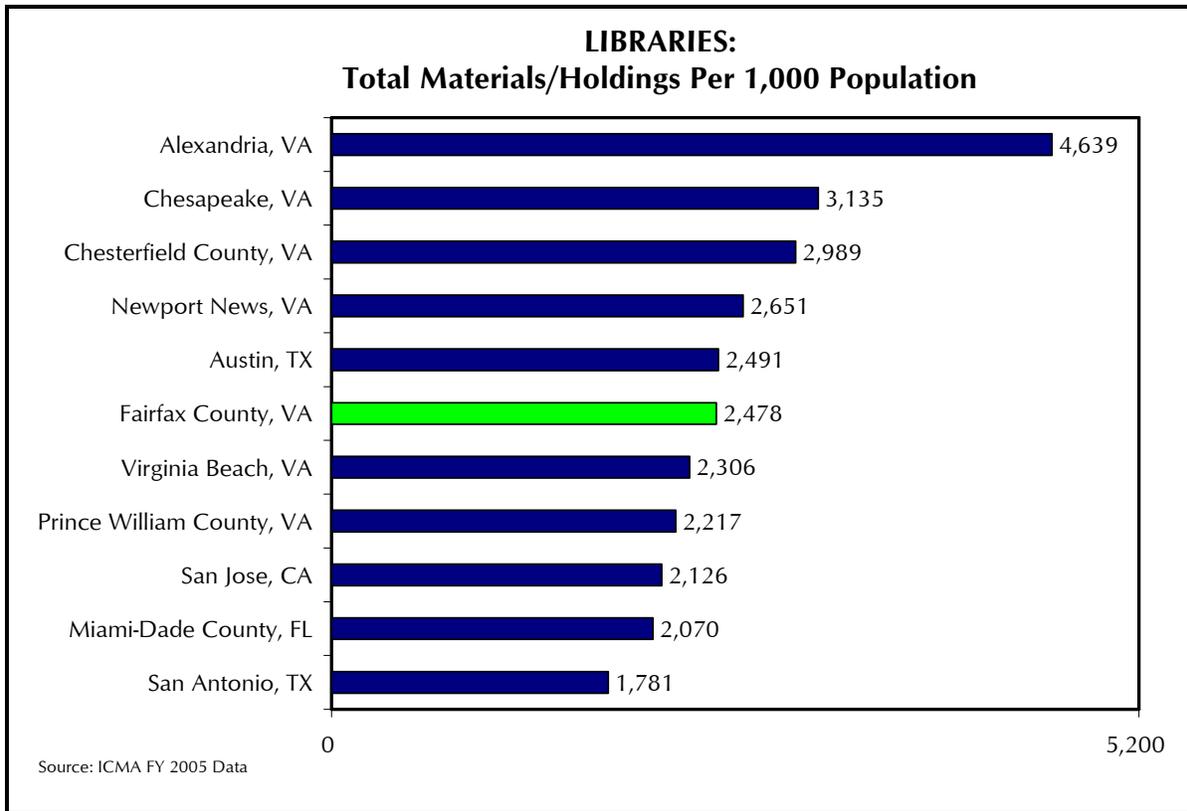
An important point to note in an effort such as this is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have shown they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark. As can be seen on the following pages, the County compares favorably in the Libraries and Parks/Recreation service areas in terms of both efficiency and effectiveness.



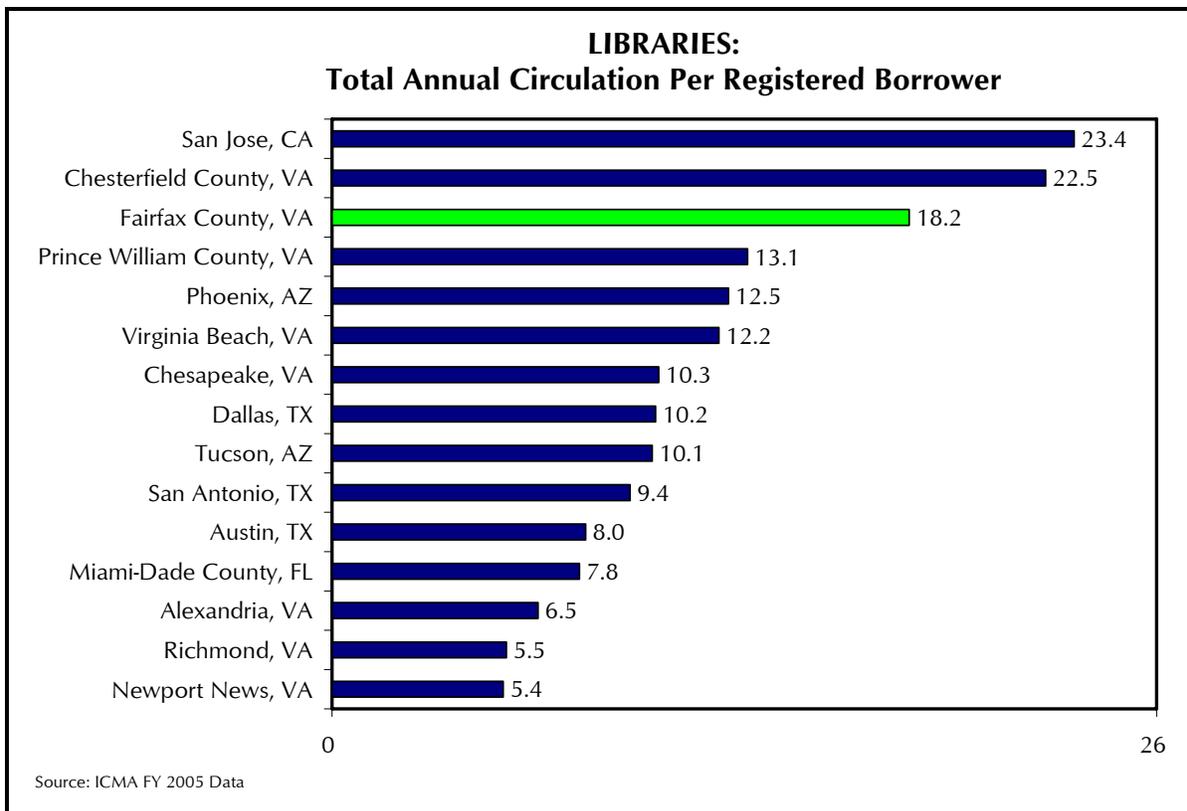
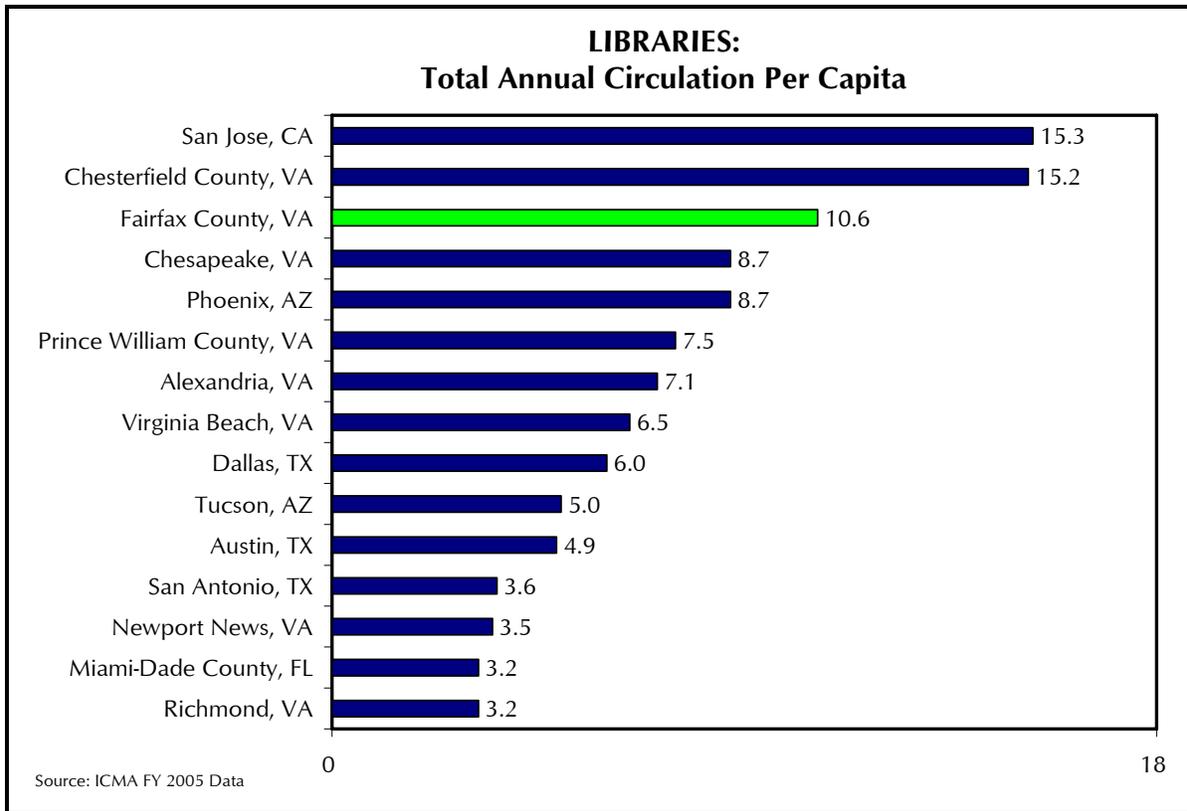
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



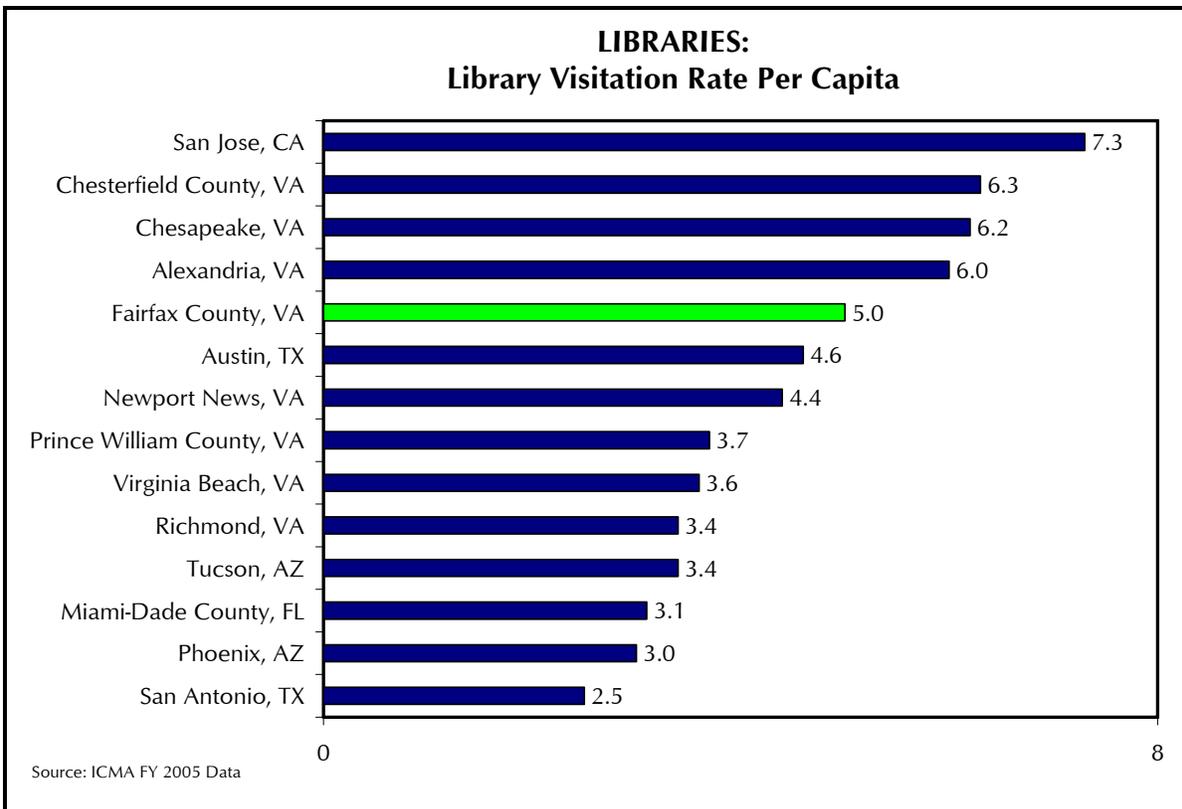
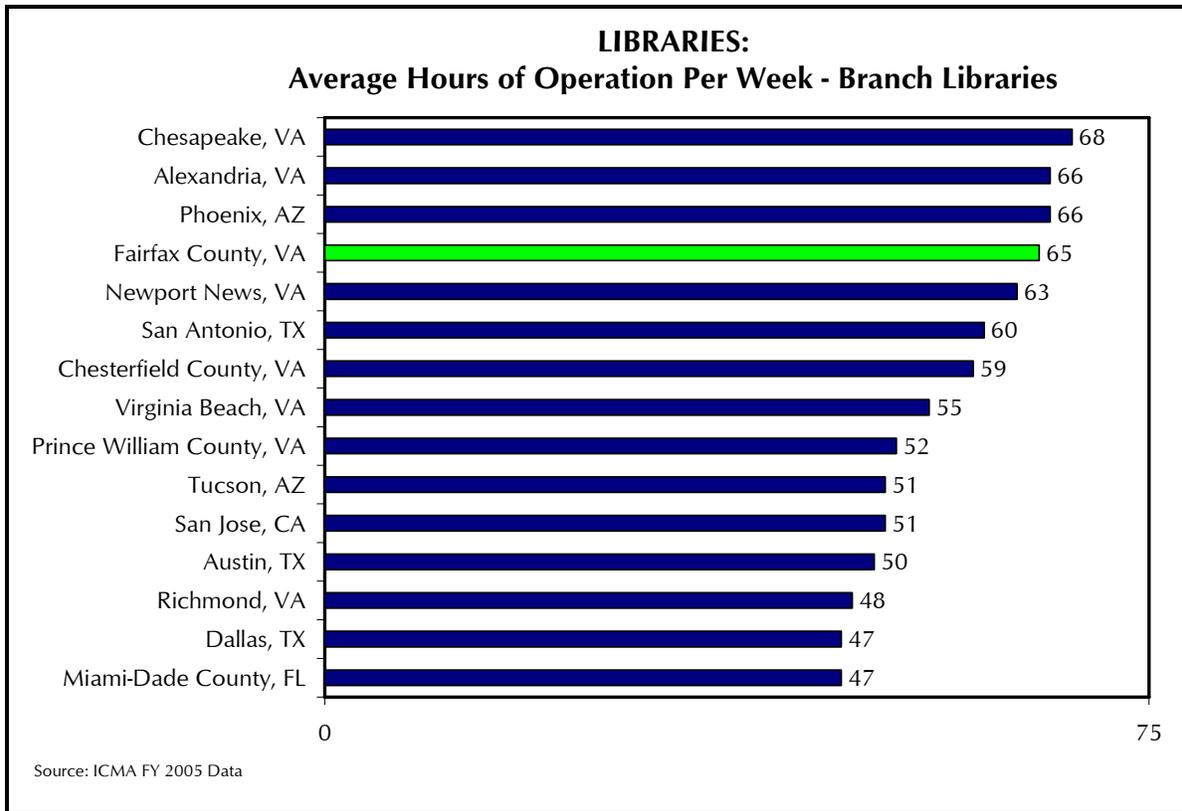
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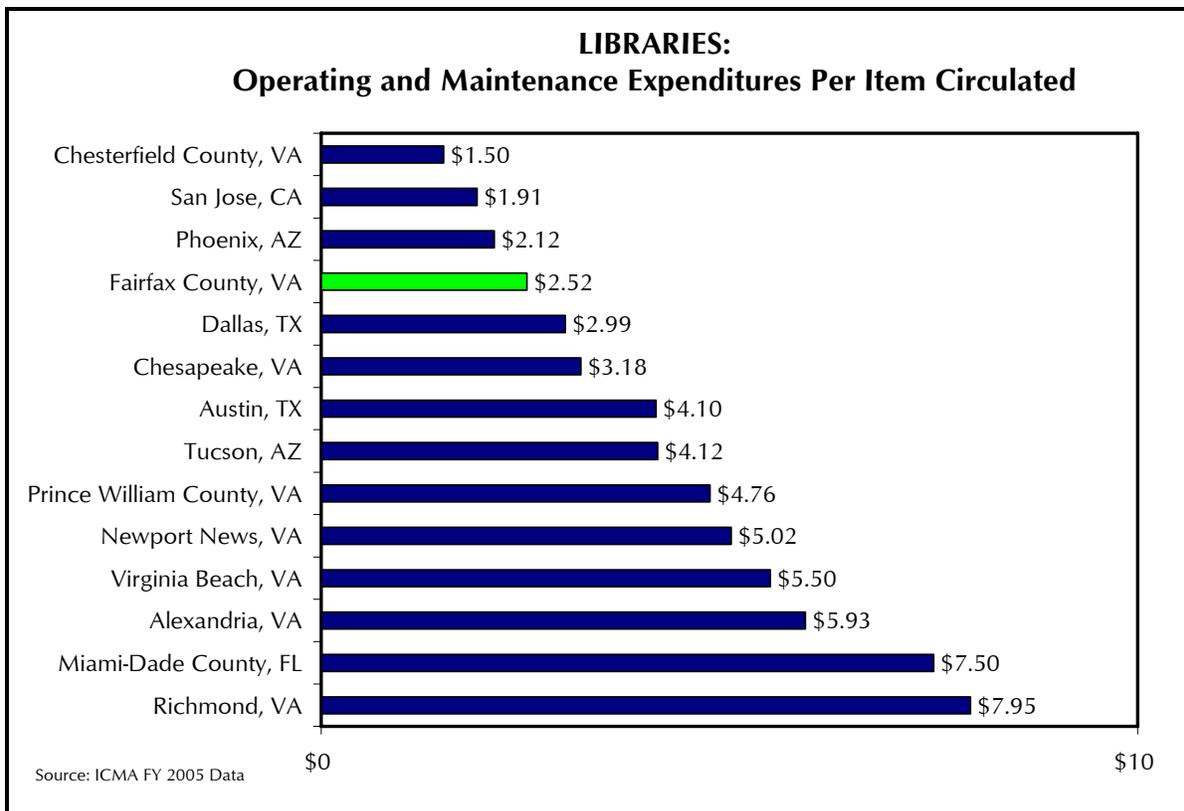
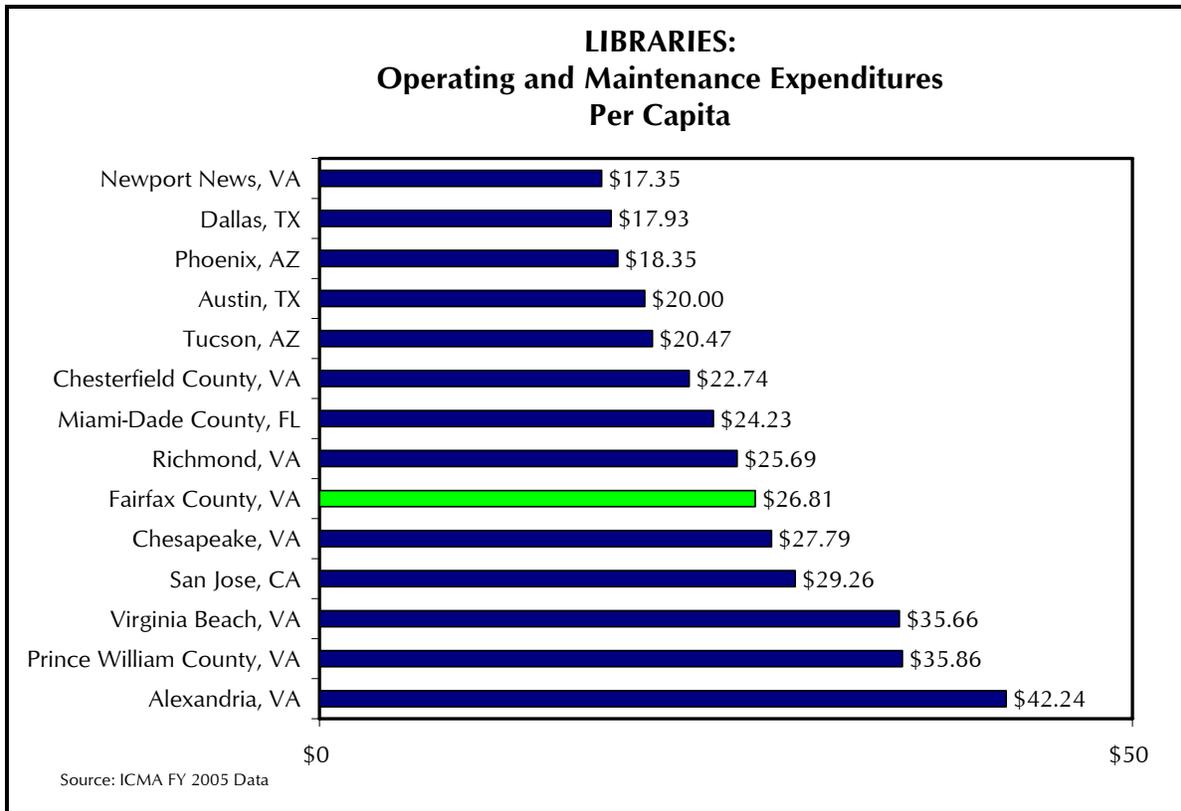
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



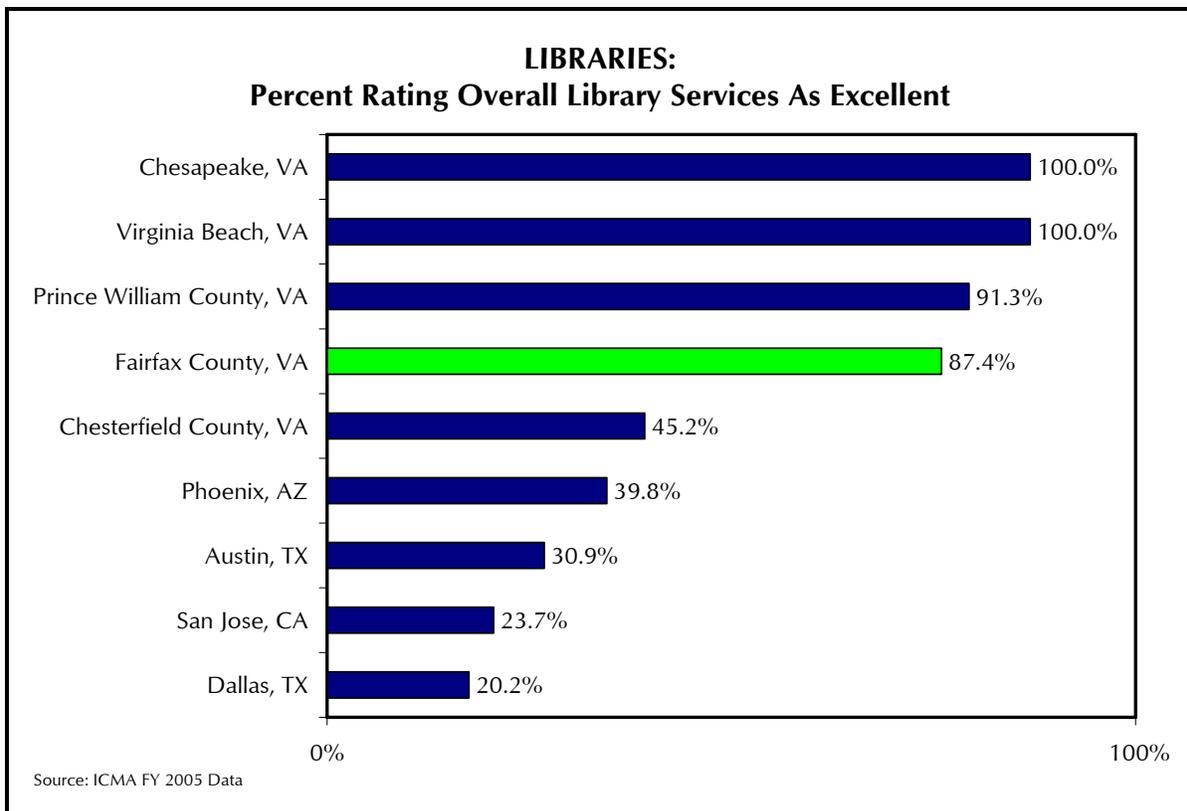
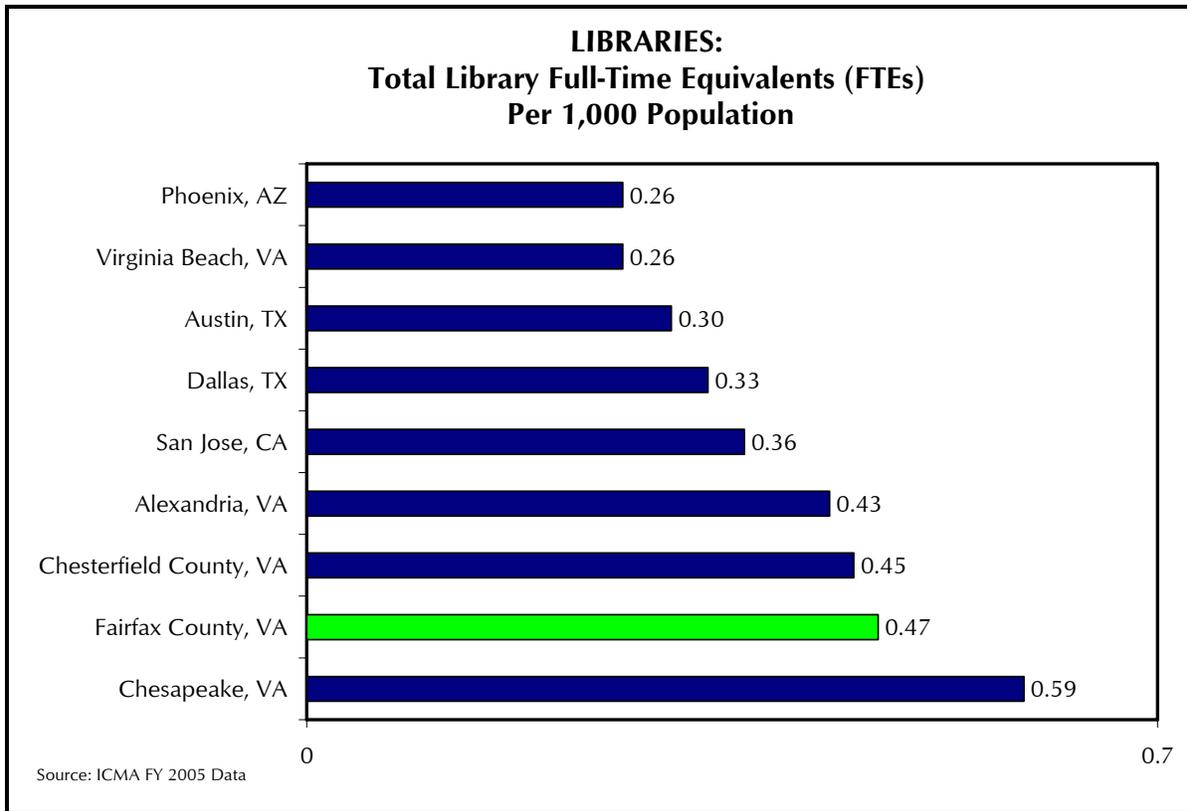
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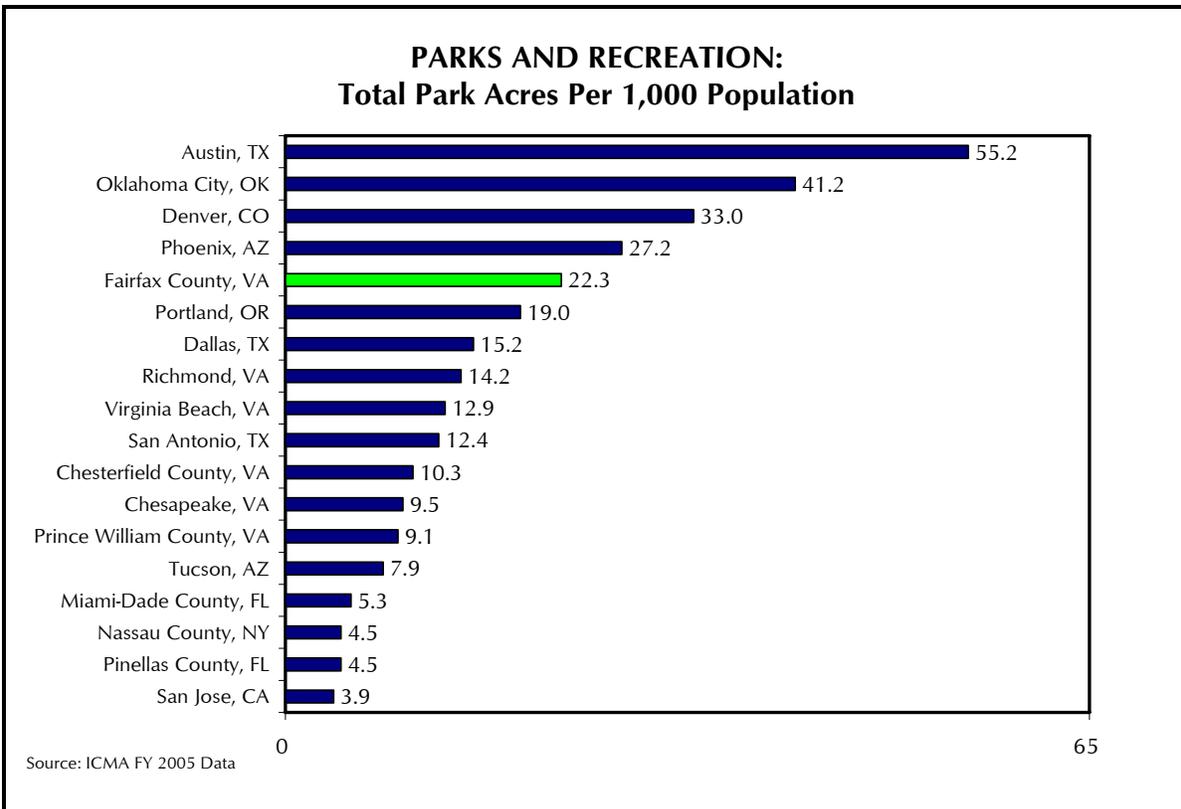
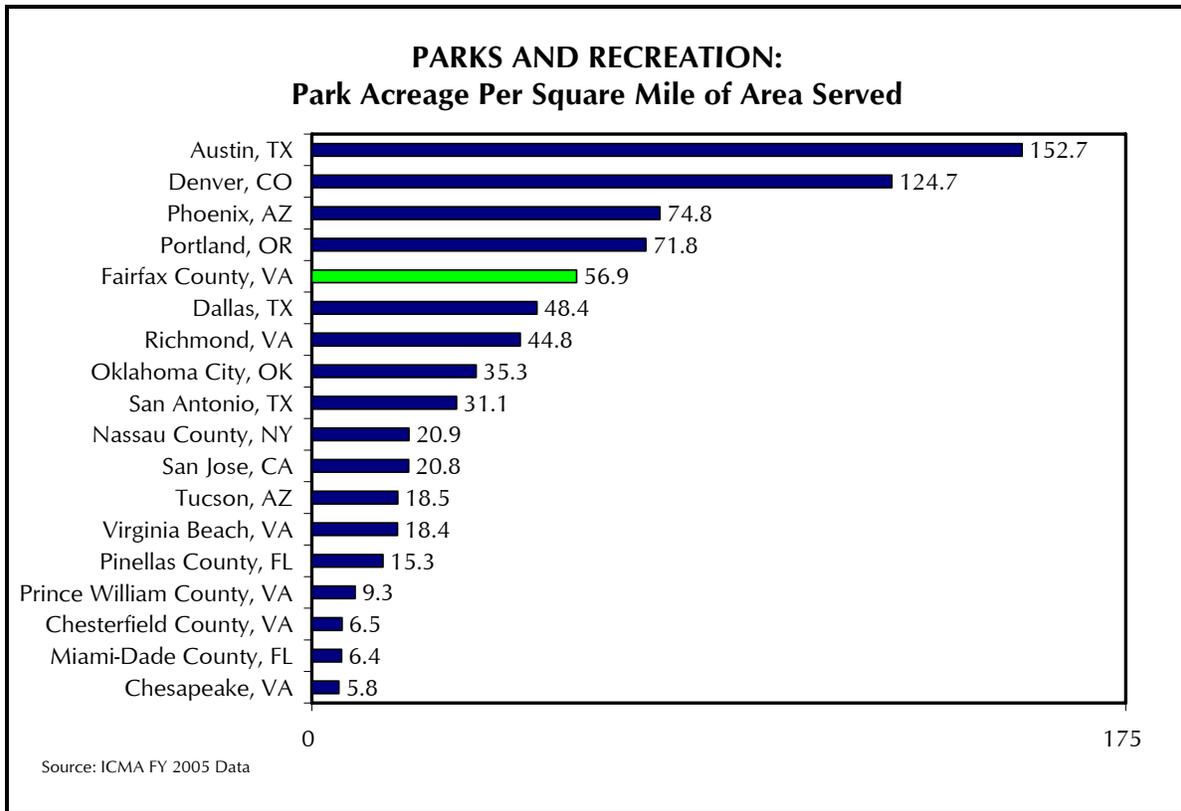
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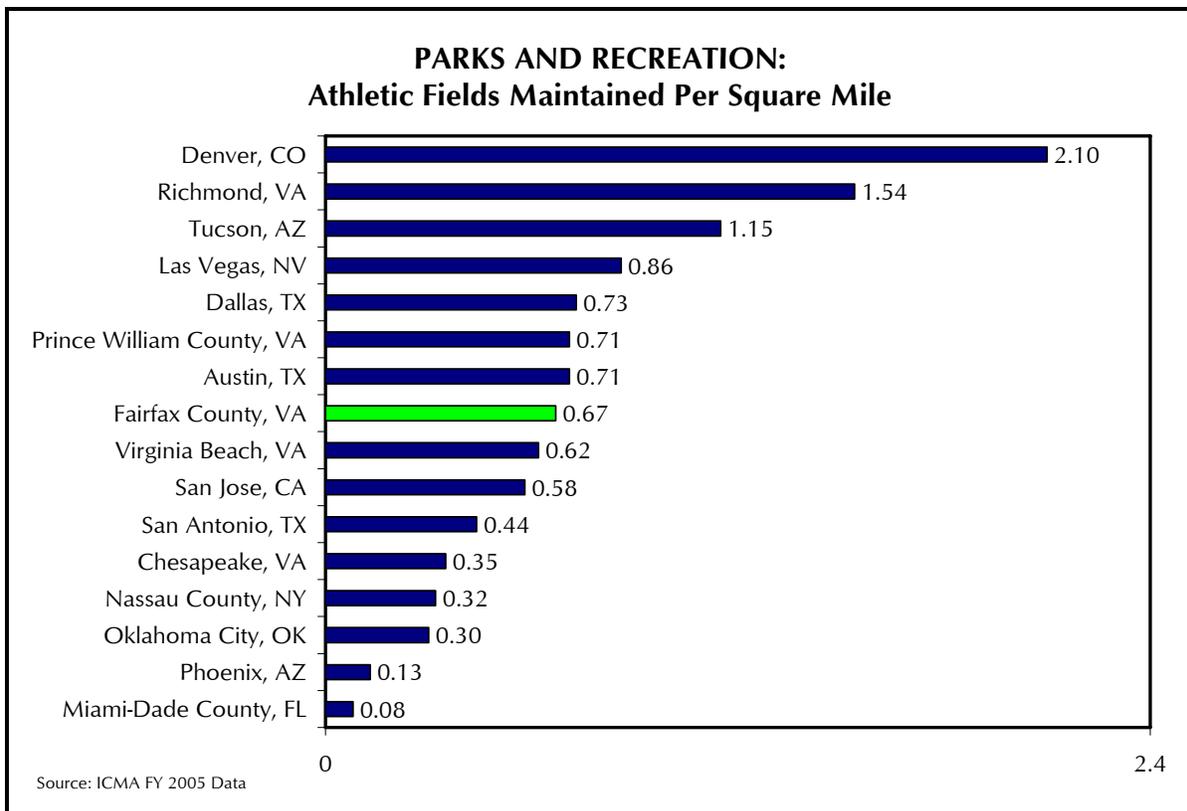
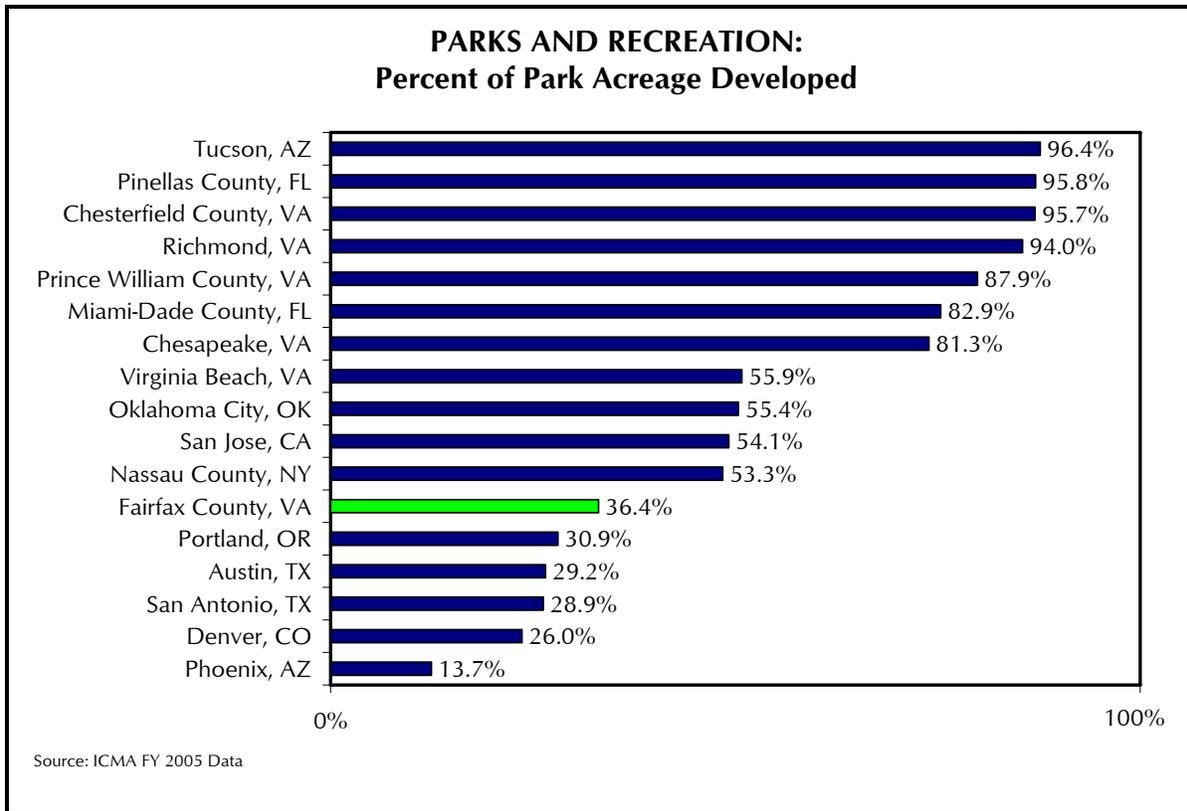
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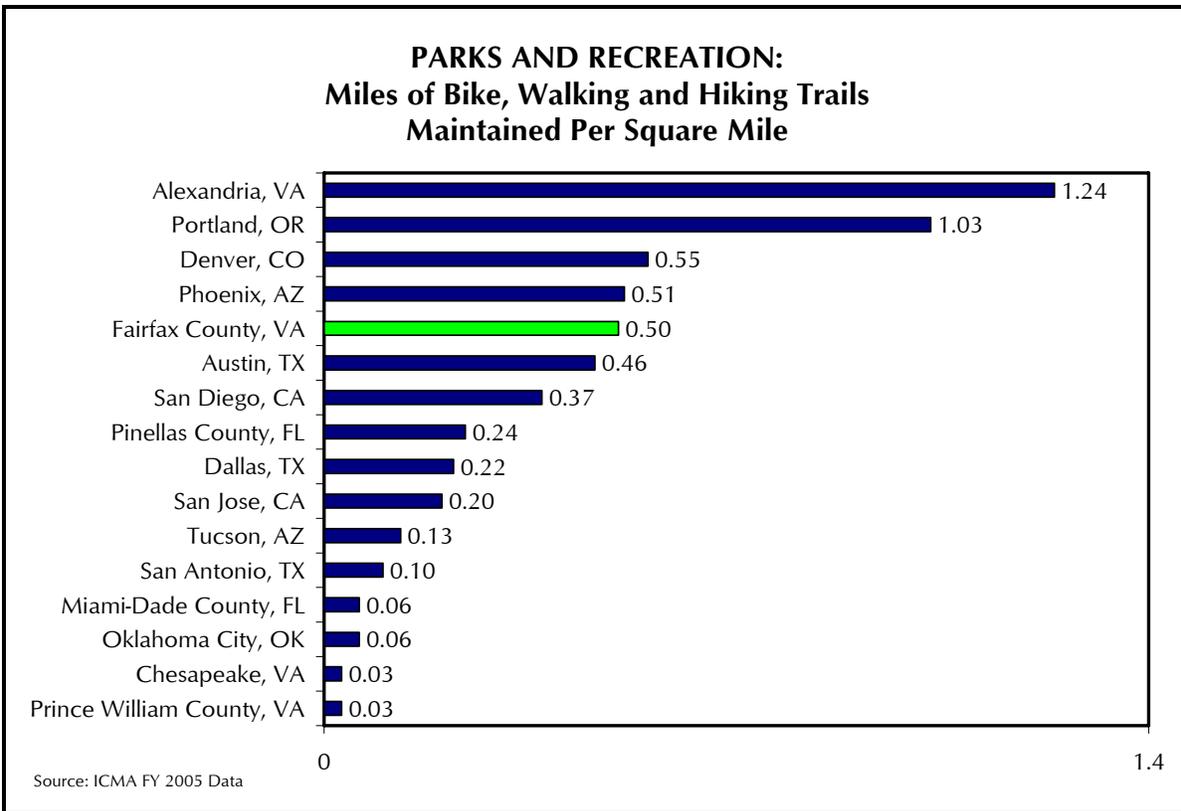
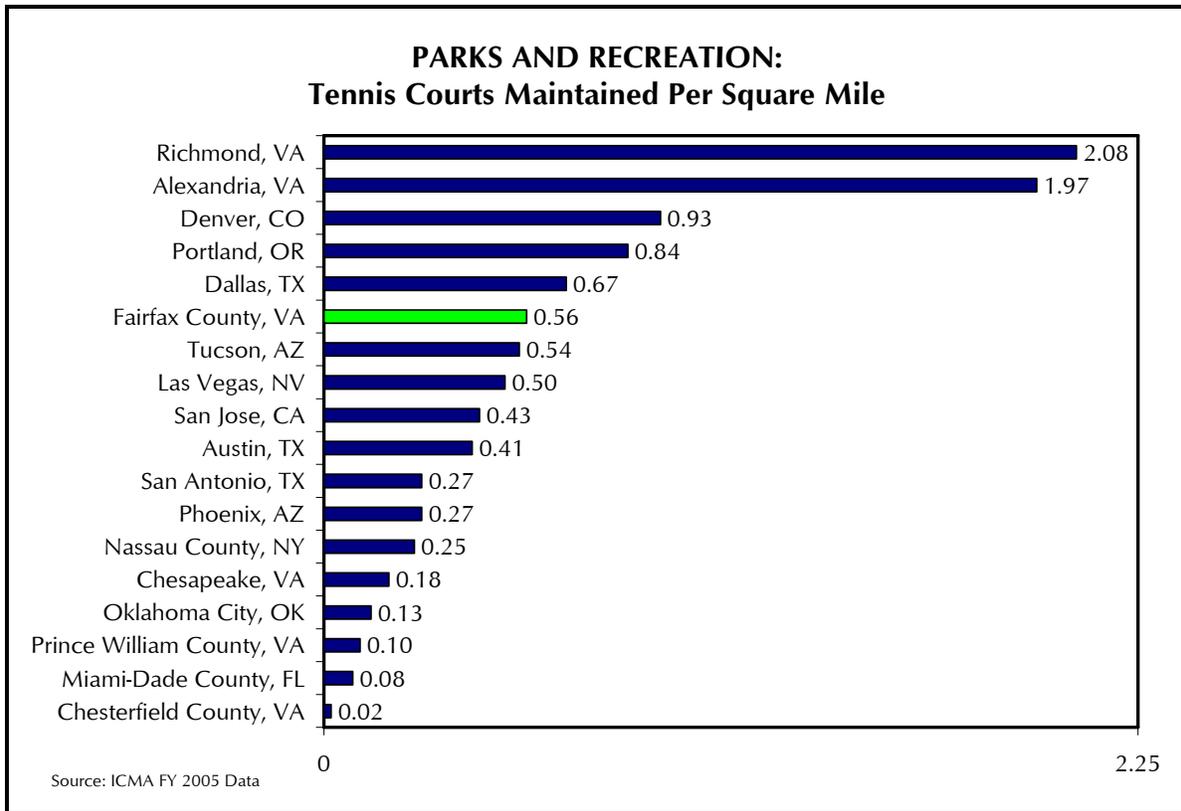
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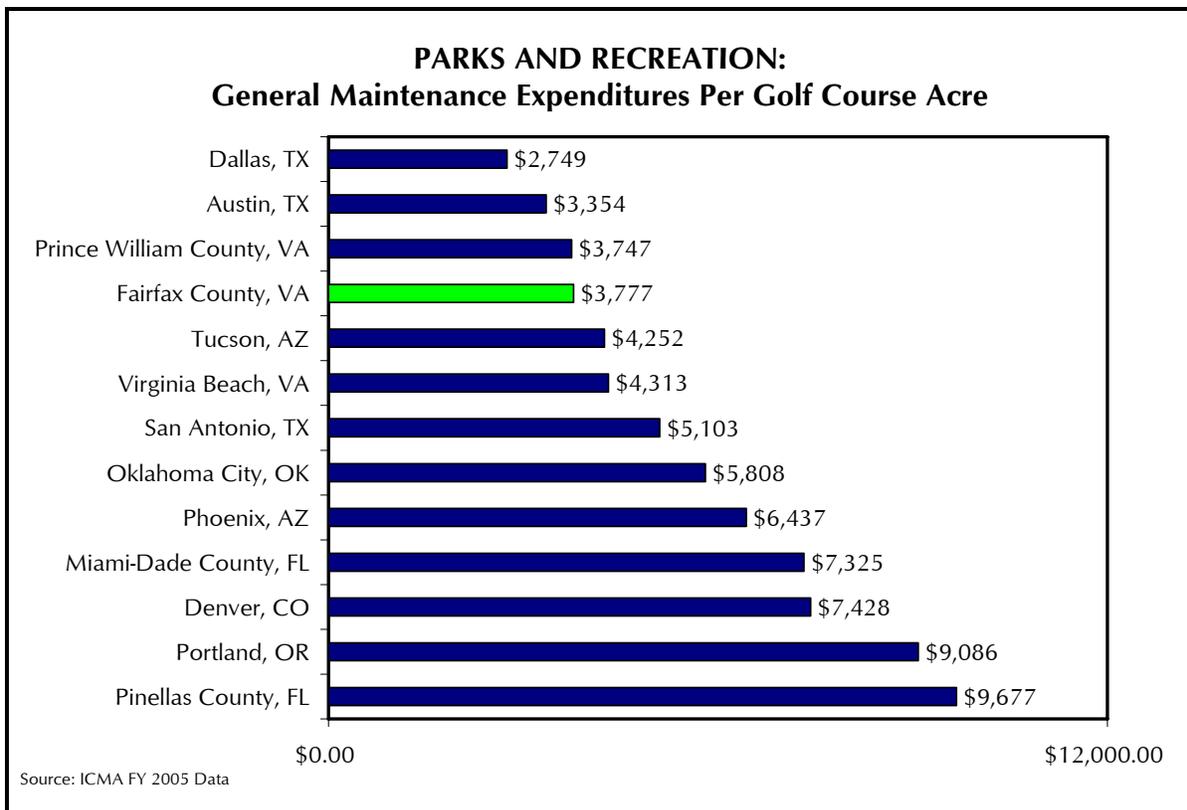
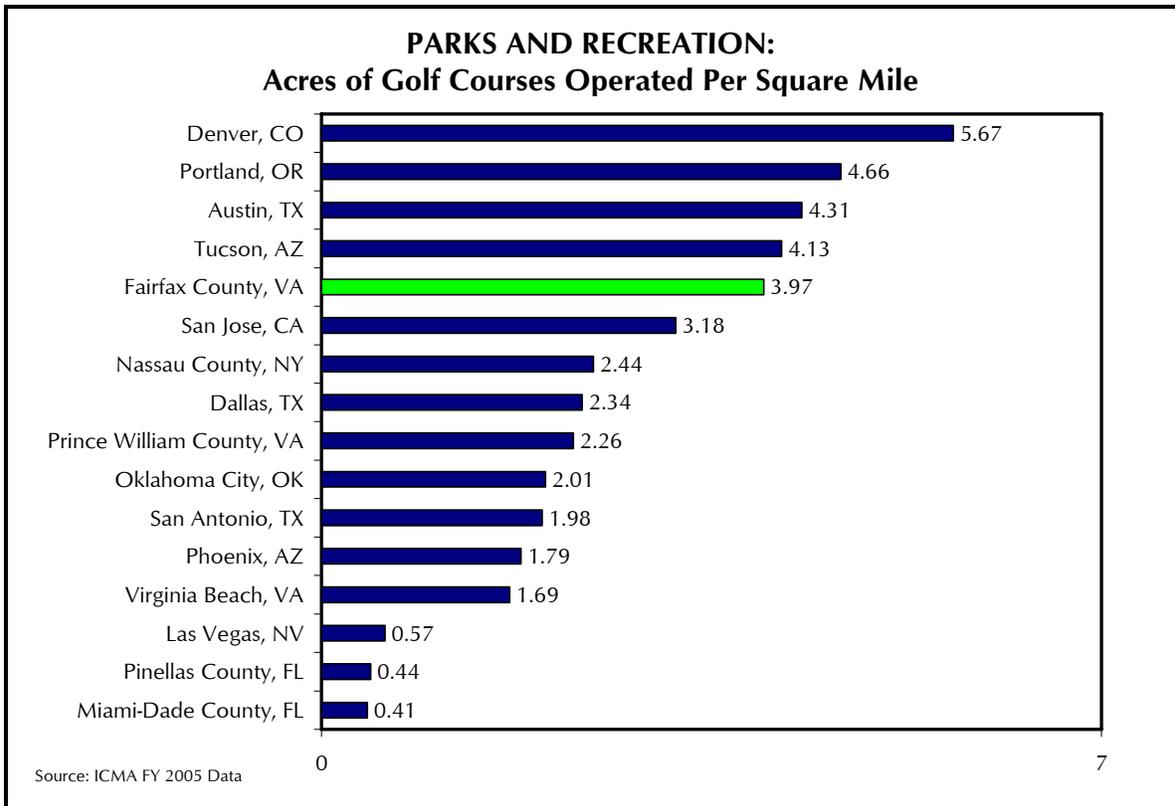
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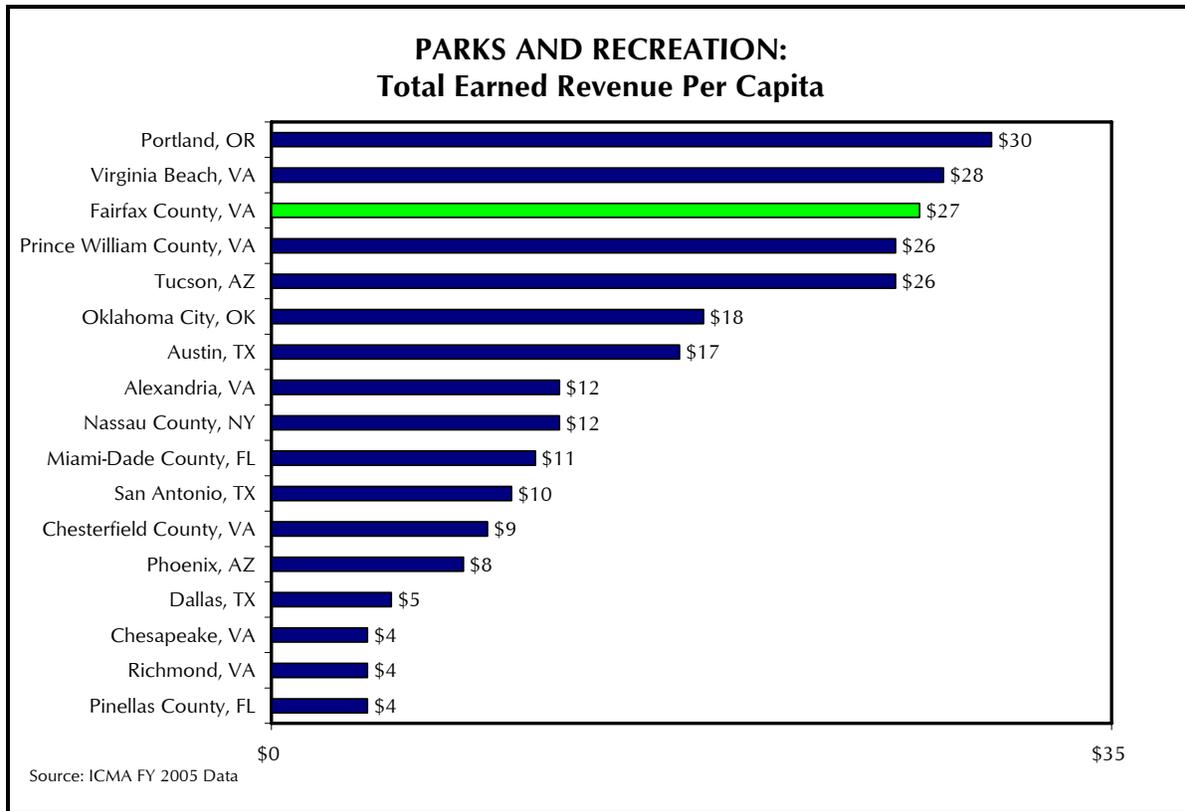
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Community Development Program Area Benchmarking Charts

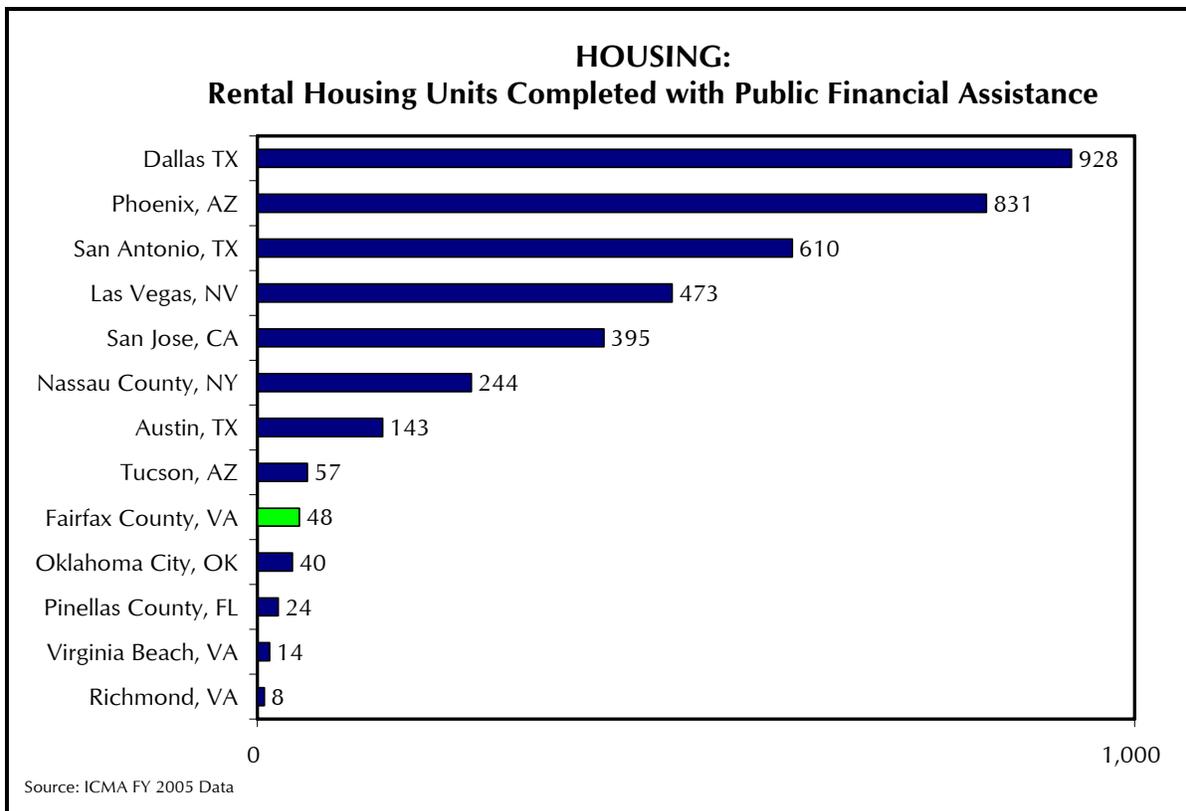
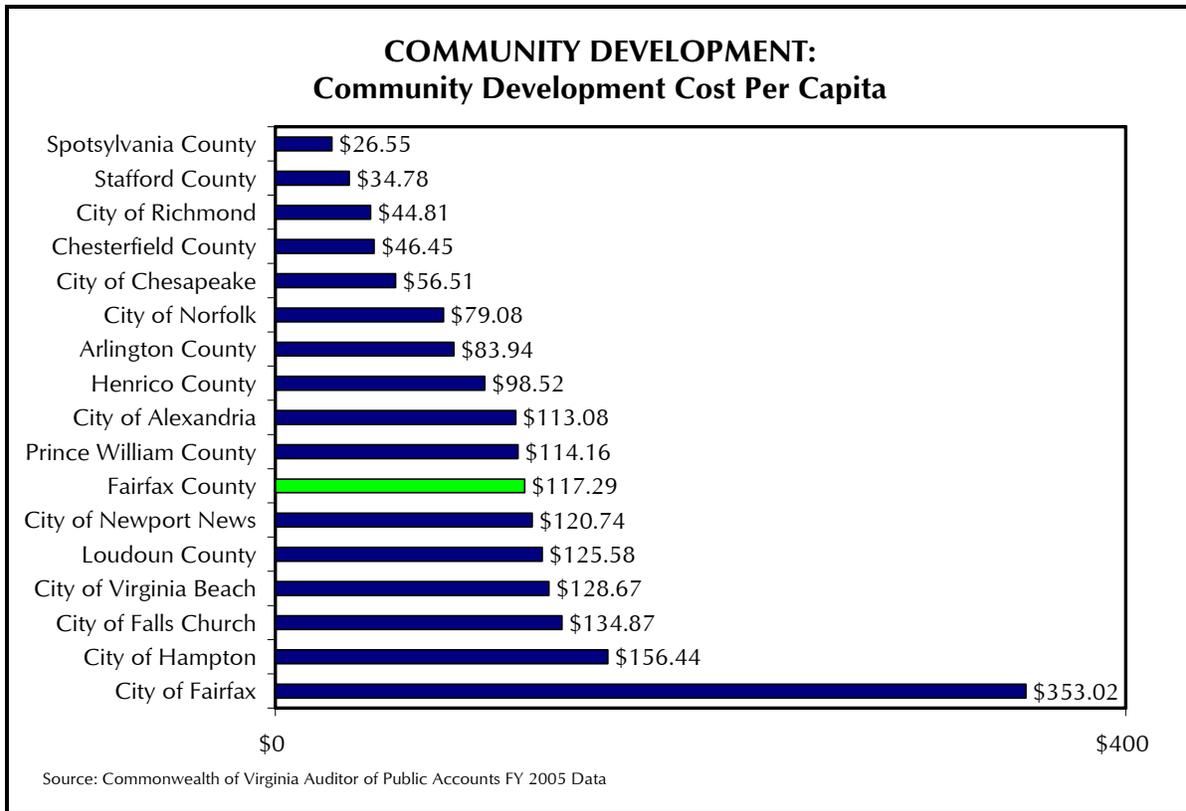
Since the FY 2005 Budget, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget as a means of demonstrating accountability to the public for results achieved. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 (General Fund) and now in Volume 2 (Other Funds) as available. Since 2000, Fairfax County has participated in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort. Participating local governments provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive review and data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time for data collection and ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information.

Not all jurisdictions provide data for each of the 15 service areas benchmarked. Housing and Code Enforcement are two of the benchmarked service areas in this program area for which Fairfax County provides data. While not a comprehensive presentation of all the agencies in this program area, the benchmarks shown provide an indication of how Fairfax County compares to others in these two major areas. A total of 66 jurisdictions responded to the Housing template for FY 2005. This included 12 with populations of 500,000 or more. For FY 2005, 112 jurisdictions provided Code Enforcement data. Of these, 11 have populations of 500,000 or more. For the greatest degree of comparability, Fairfax County generally benchmarks its performance with other large jurisdictions (population of 500,000 or more) as well as other Virginia localities as available. It should be noted that the other cities and counties in Virginia historically participating in the ICMA effort include Richmond, Virginia Beach and Prince William County, as well as for the first time, Alexandria, Chesterfield County and Chesapeake, which responded to at least some of the template questions. As noted above, not all respond to every service area template.

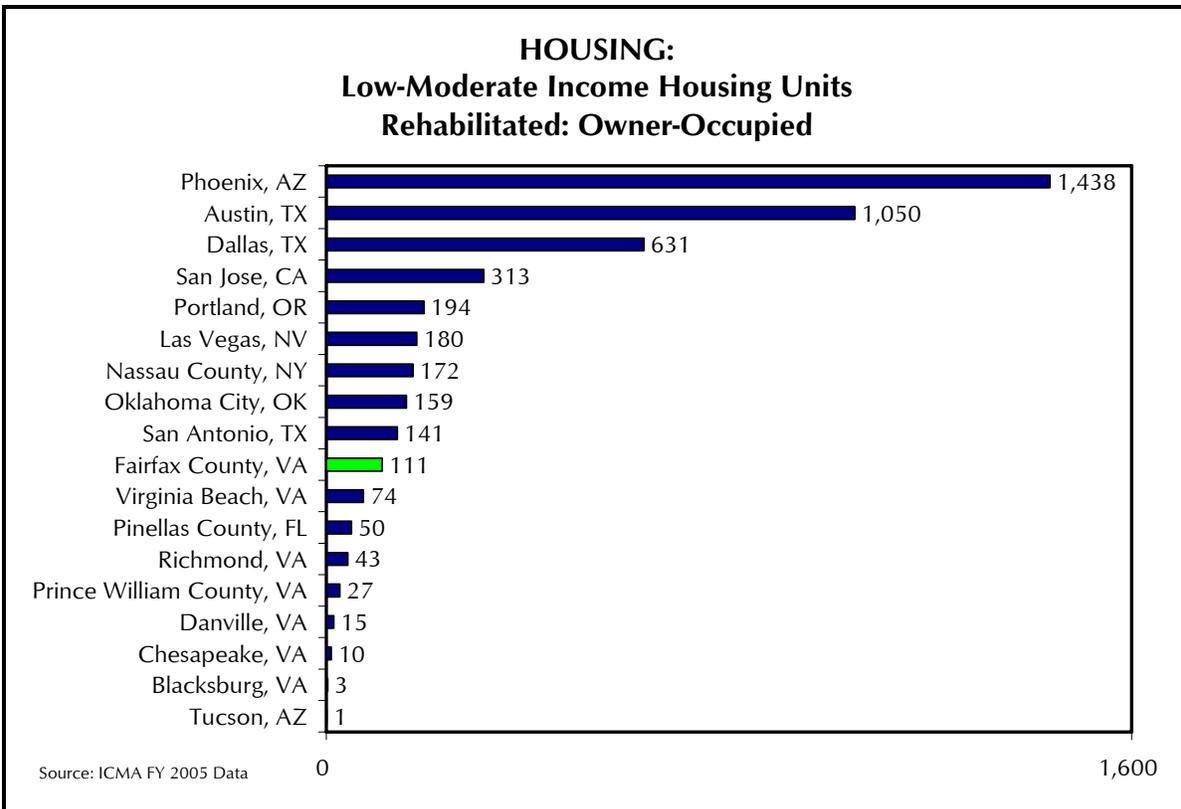
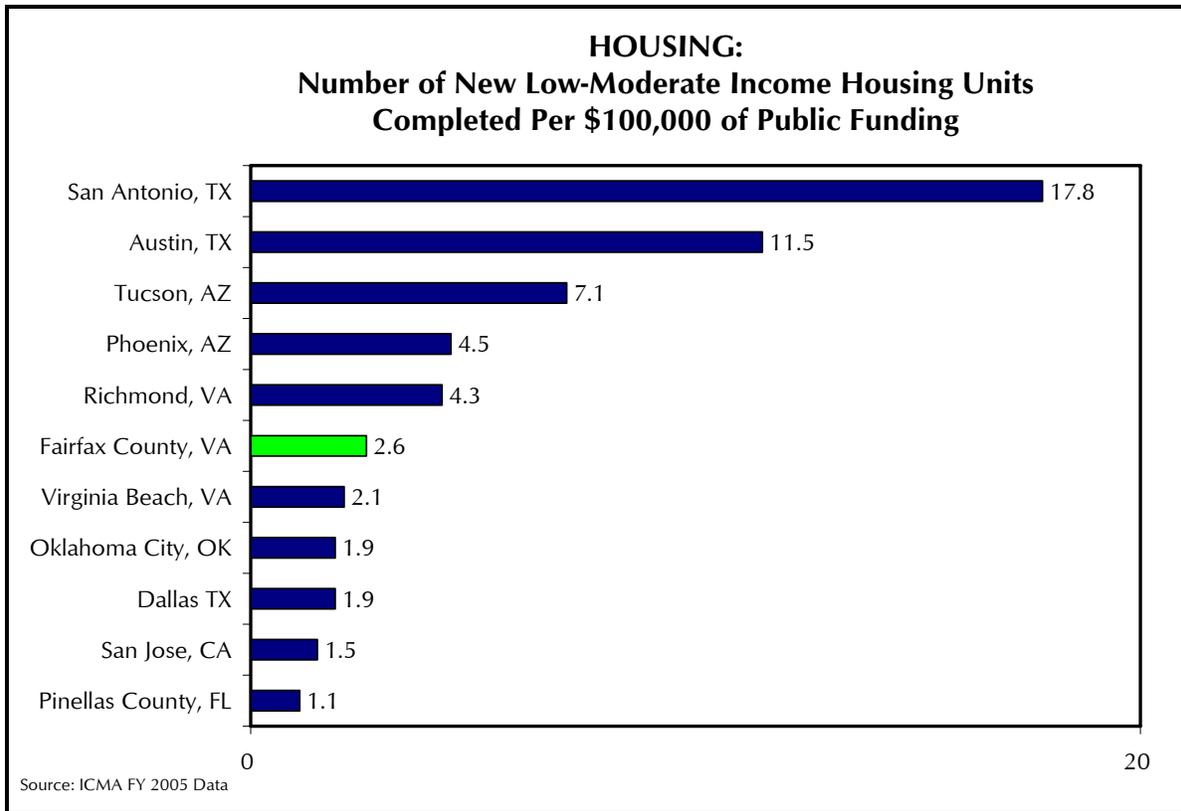
An important point to note in an effort such as this is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have shown they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that performance is also affected by a number of variables including funding levels, weather, the economy, local preferences, cuts in federal and state aid, and demographic characteristics such as income, age and even ethnicity. As noted above, not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark.

In addition, as part of an effort to identify additional benchmarks beyond the ICMA effort, data collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia are included here as well. Again, due to the time necessary for data collection and cleaning, FY 2005 represents the most recent year for which data are available. An advantage to including these benchmarks is the comparability. In Virginia, local governments follow stringent guidelines regarding the classification of program area expenses. Cost data are provided annually to the APA for review and compilation in an annual report. Since these data are not prepared by any one jurisdiction, their objectivity is less questionable than they would be if collected by one of the participants. In addition, a standard methodology is consistently followed, allowing comparison over time. For each of the program areas, these comparisons of cost per capita are the first benchmarks shown in these sections.

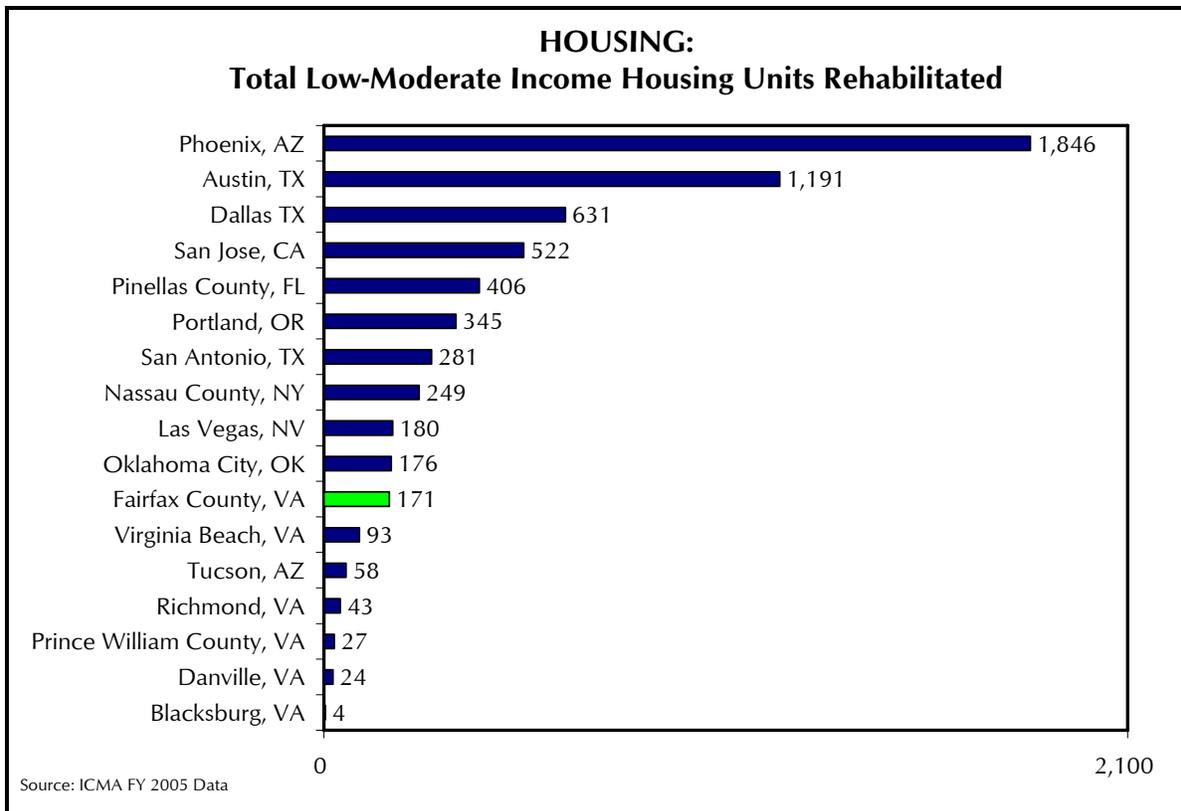
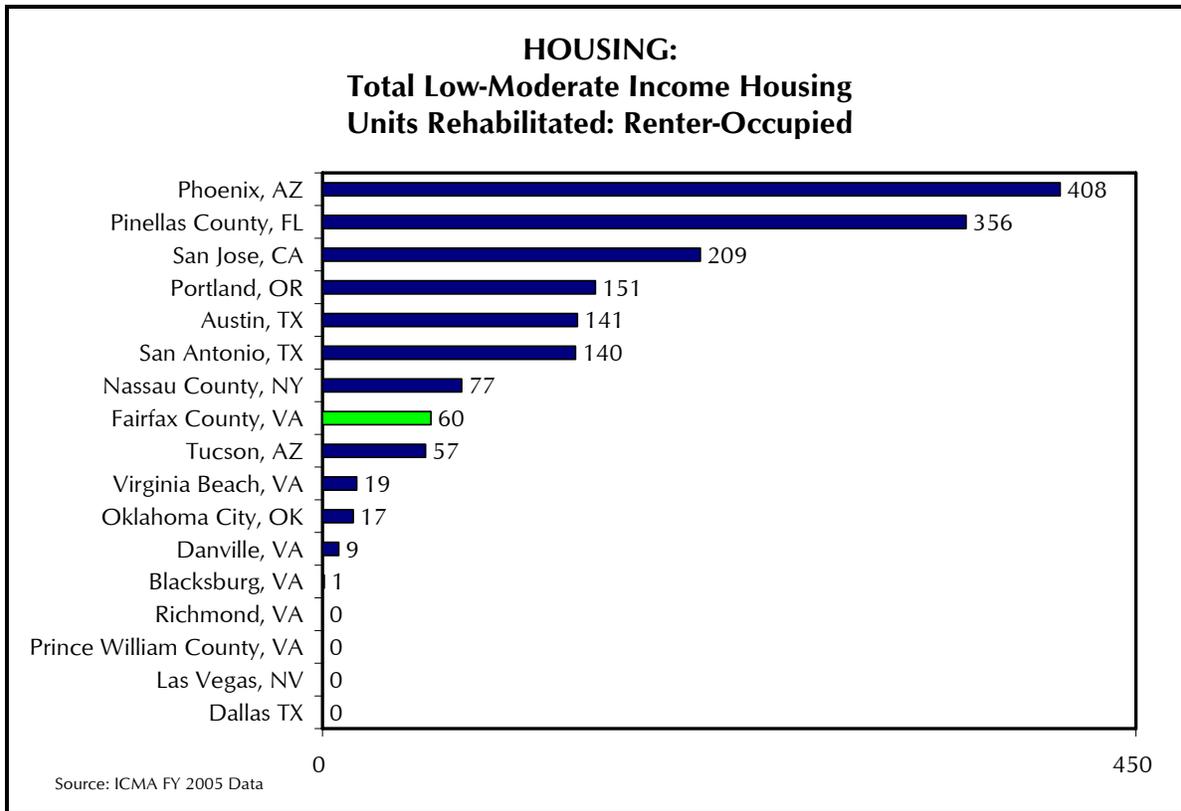
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



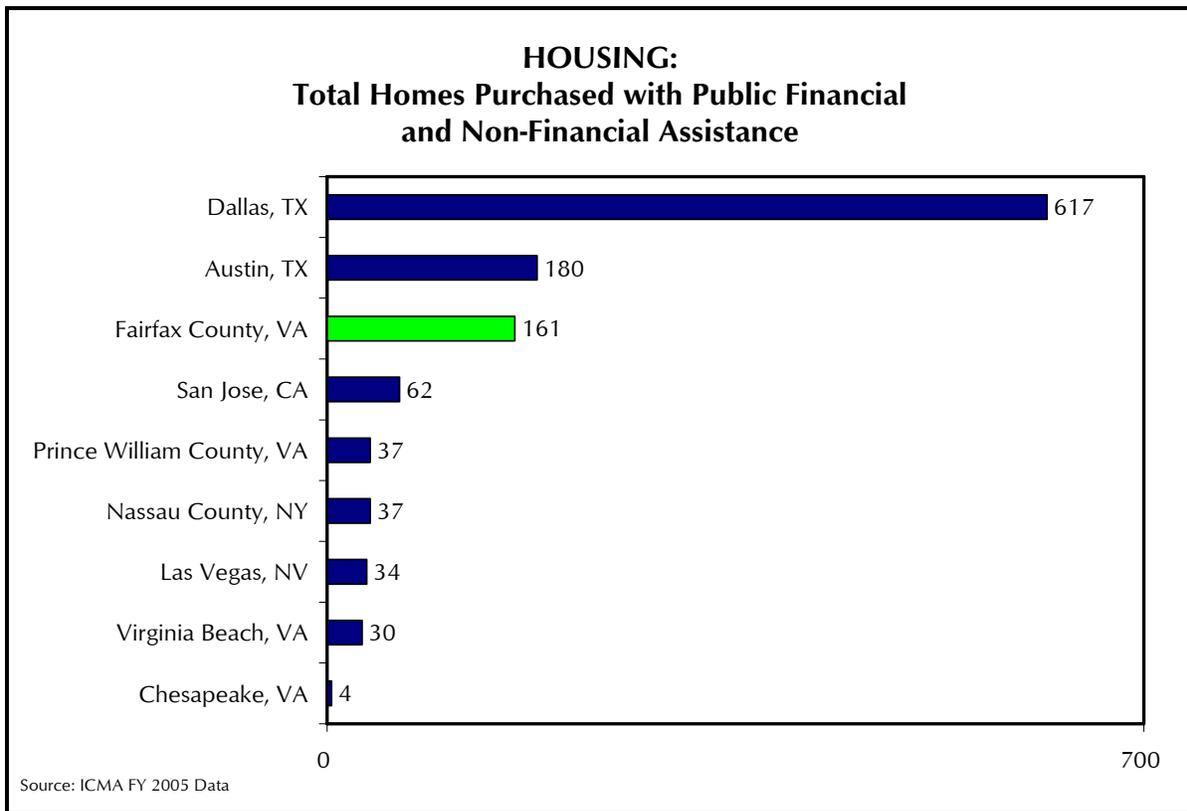
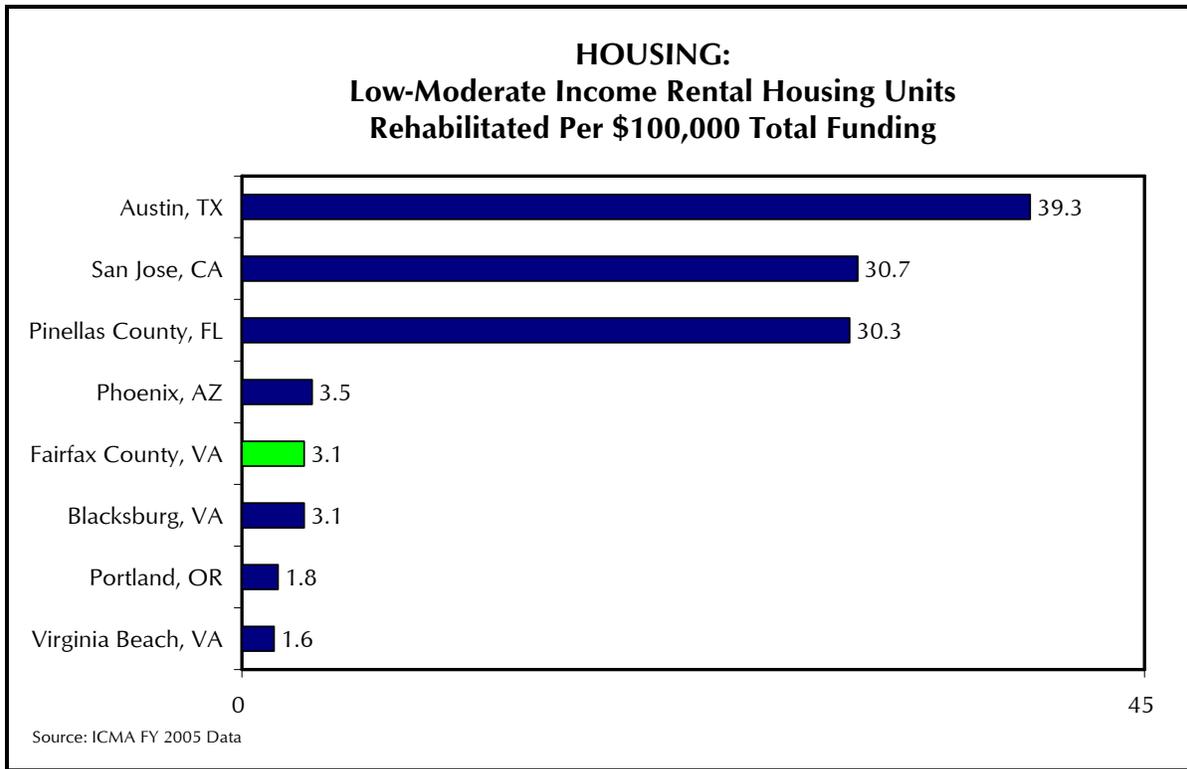
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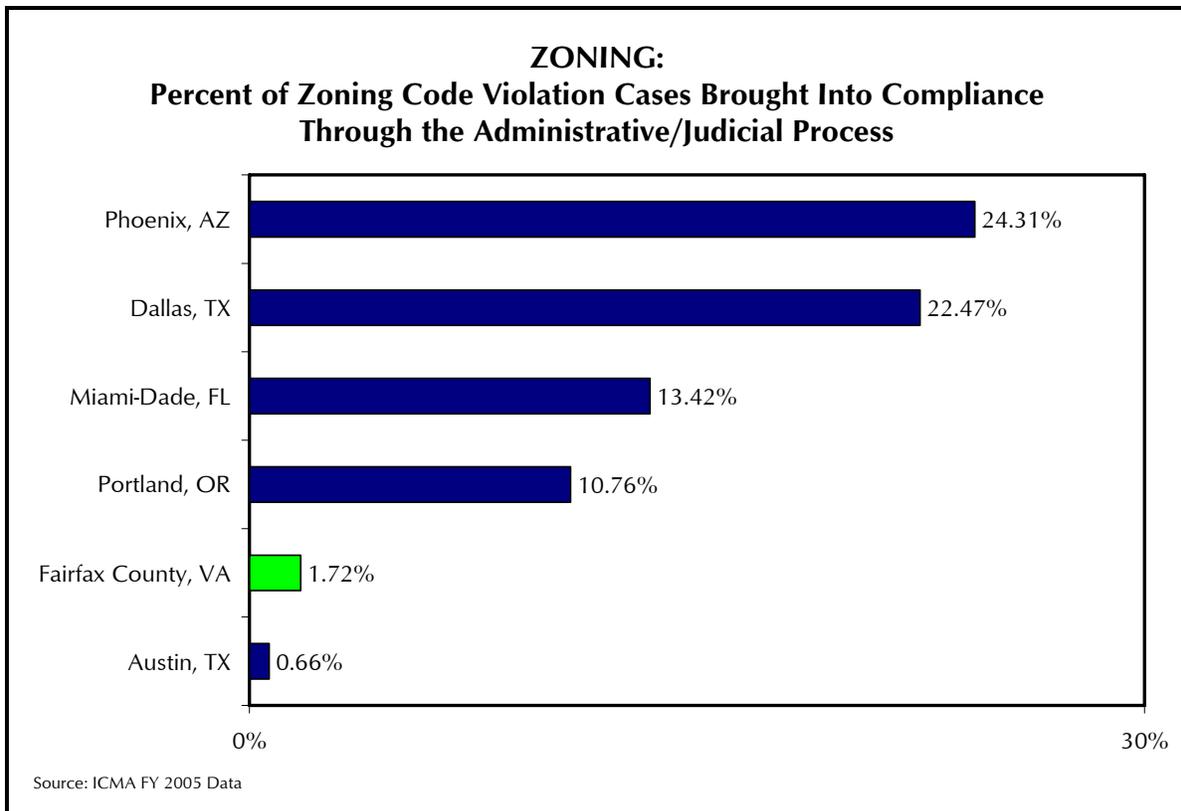
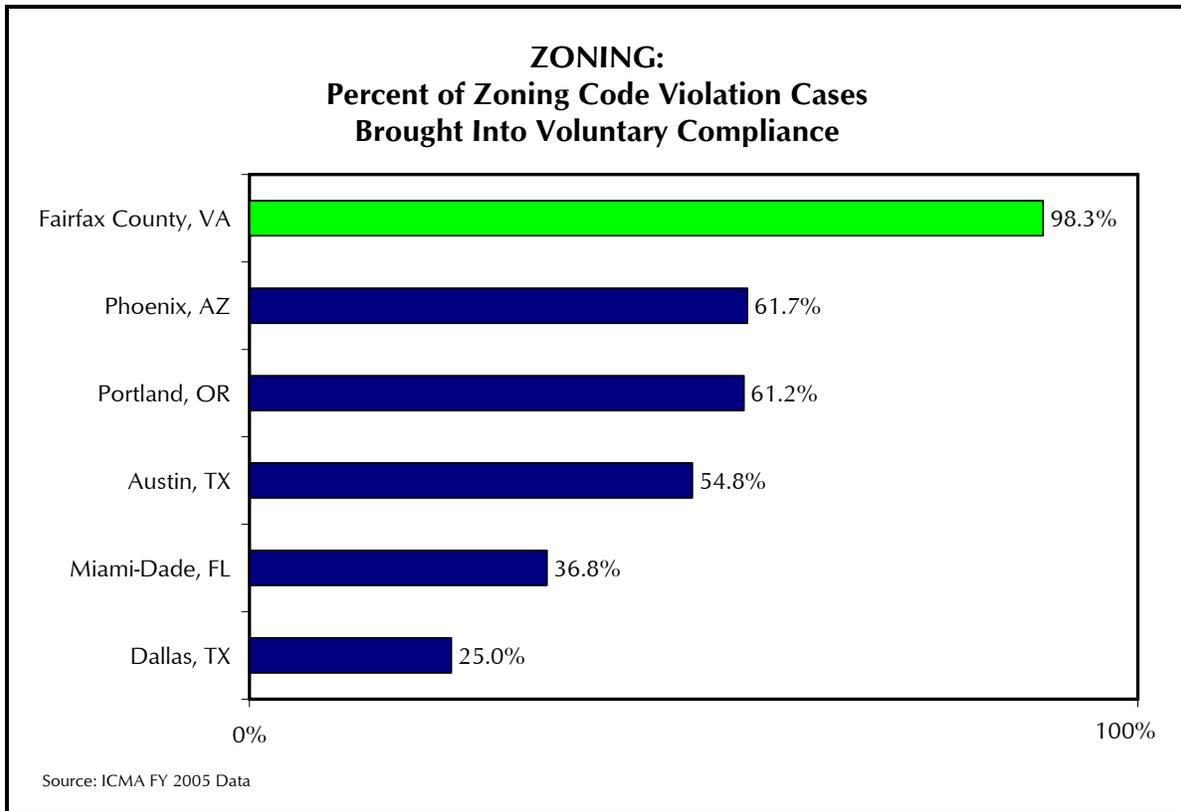
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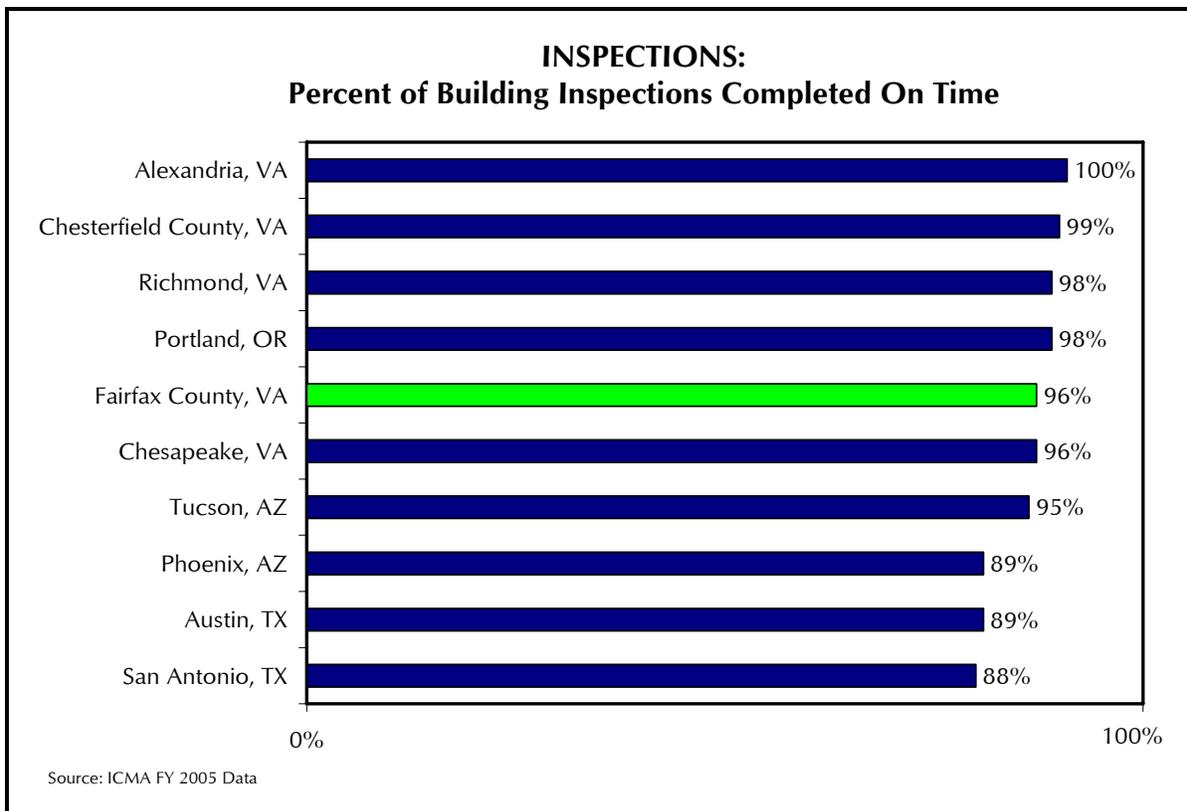
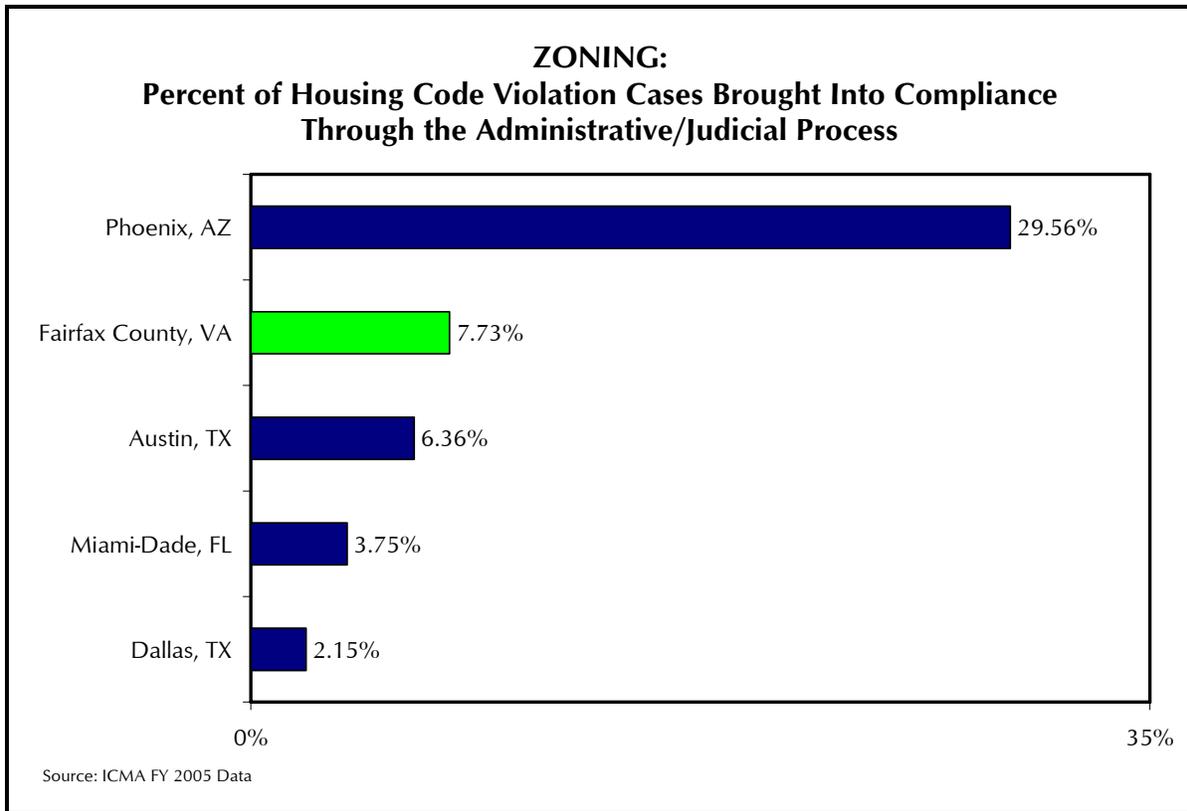
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Refuse Collection (Fund 109) Benchmarking Charts

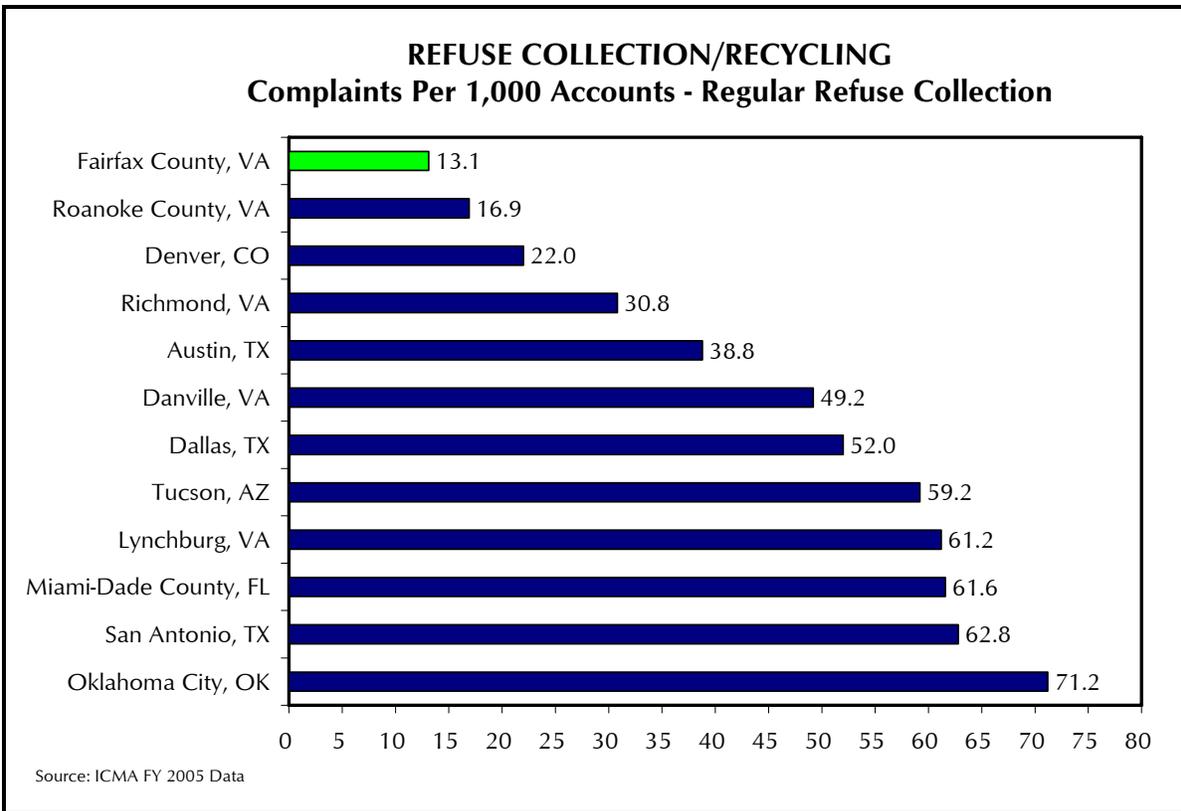
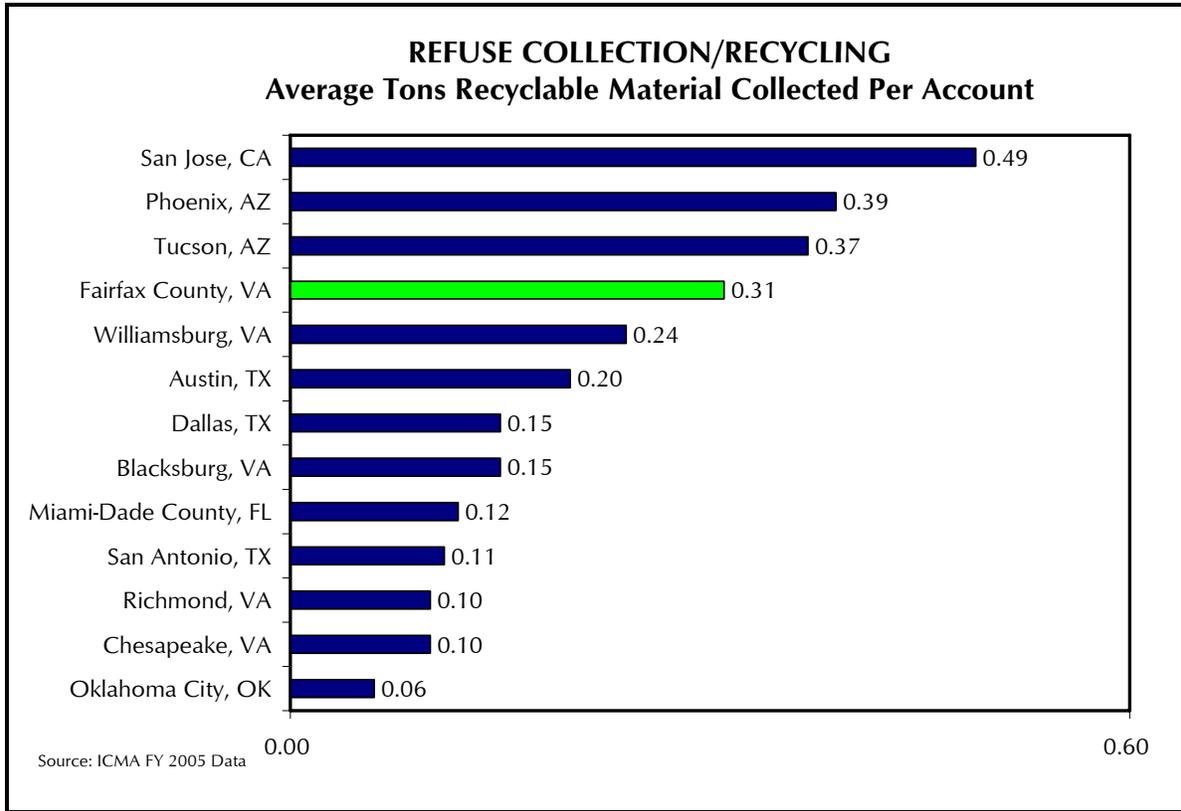
As a means of enhancing accountability, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget since FY 2005. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 and now in Other Funds (Volume 2) as available. Since 2000, Fairfax County has participated in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort. Approximately 150 cities, counties and towns provide comparable data annually in 15 service areas. However, not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area.

As part of the ICMA benchmarking effort, participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive checking and data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time necessary to collect the data and undergo ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs on the following pages generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

Refuse Collection/Recycling is one of the service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. An important point to note about the ICMA comparative data effort is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have demonstrated that they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark. However, as shown below, Fairfax County compares favorably in both efficiency and effectiveness.



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Risk Management (County Insurance Fund, Fund 501) Benchmarking Charts

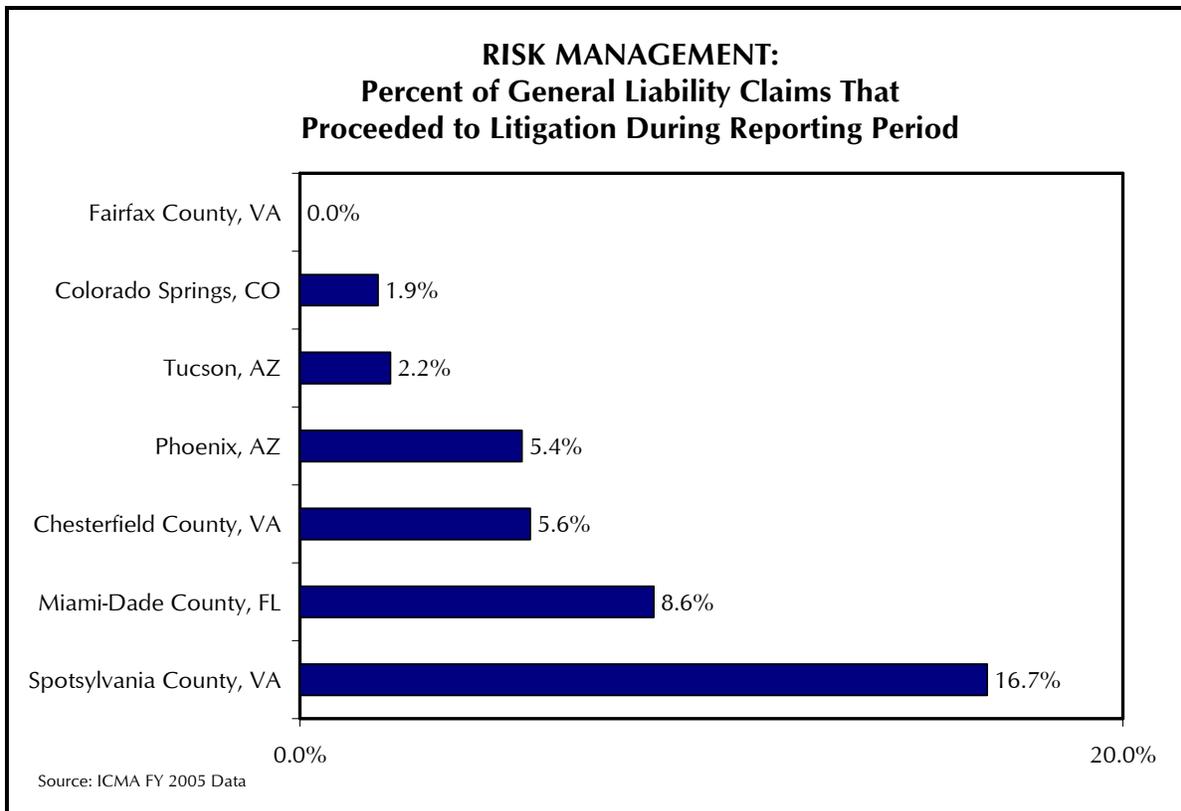
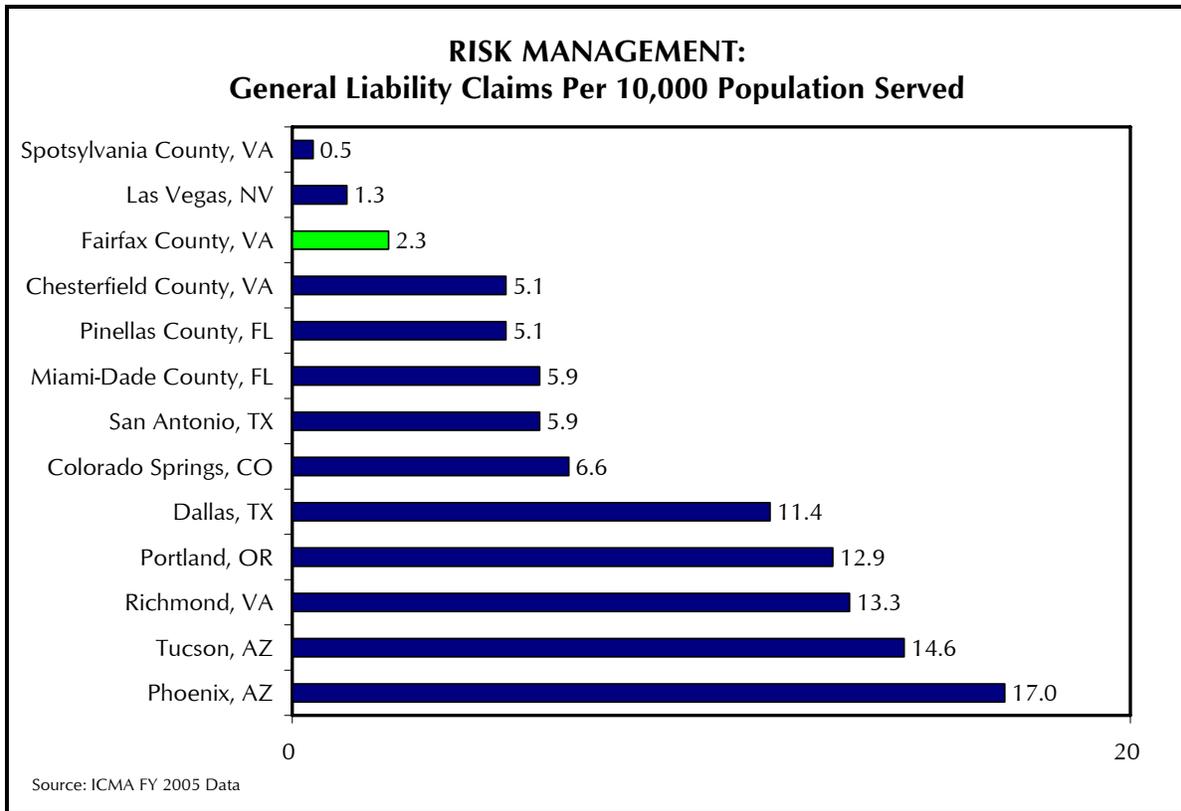
As a means of enhancing accountability, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget since FY 2005. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 and now in Other Funds (Volume 2) as available. The majority of this benchmarking data come from the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort in which Fairfax County has participated since 2000. Approximately 150 cities, counties and towns provide comparable data annually in 15 service areas. However, not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area.

As part of the ICMA benchmarking effort, participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive checking and data cleaning to ensure the greatest possible accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time required to collect the data and undergo ICMA's comprehensive data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs on the following pages generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

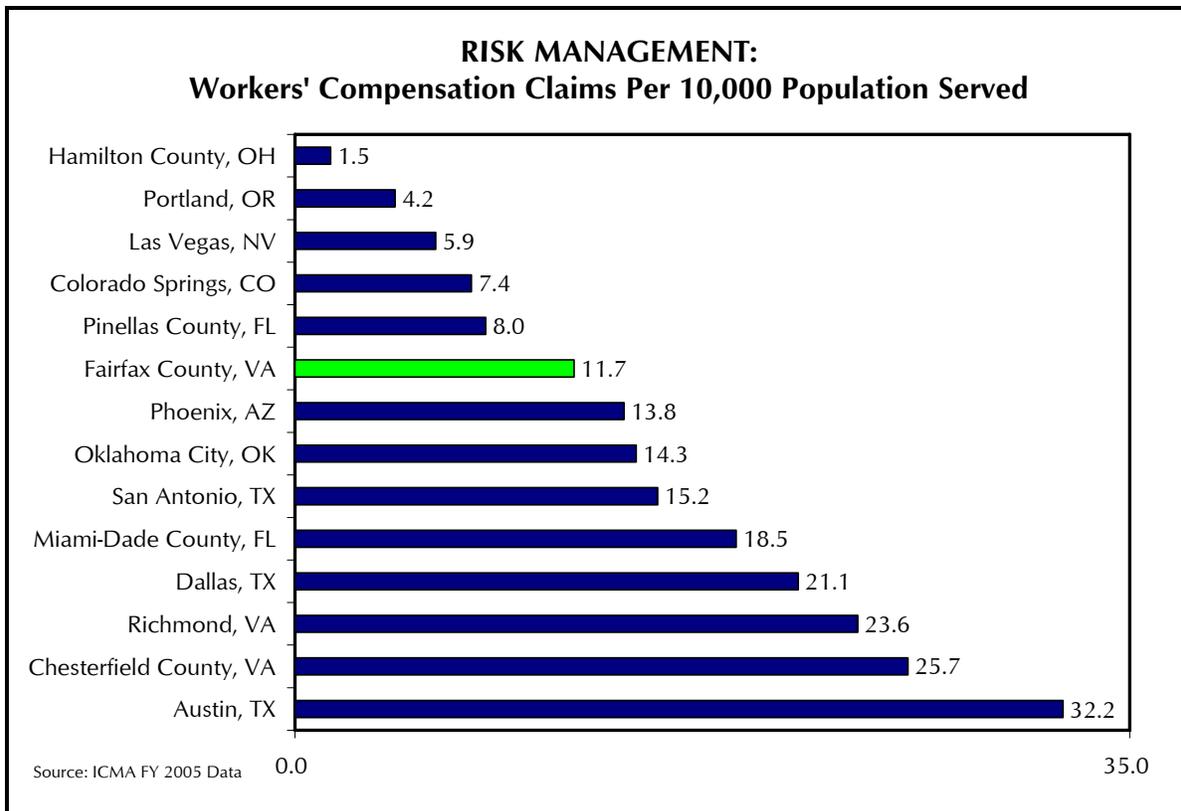
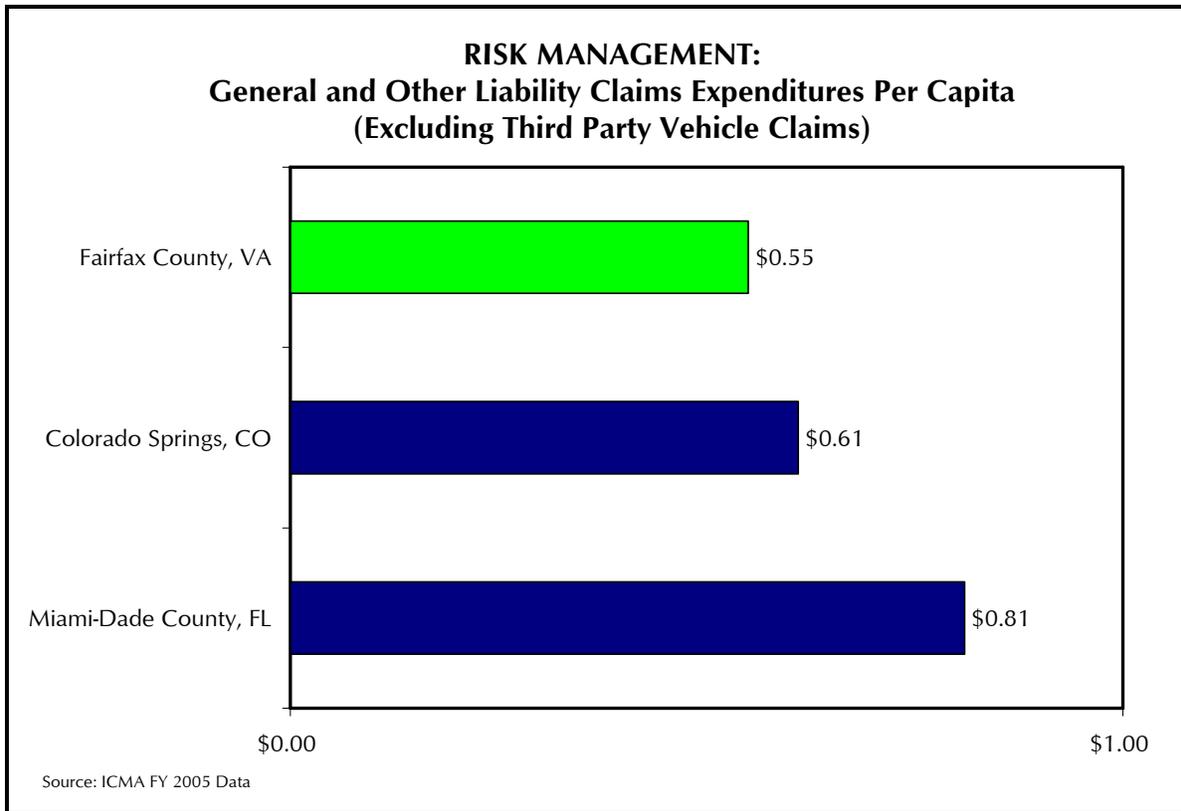
Risk Management is one of the service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. As can be seen on the following pages, Fairfax County compares favorably to the other large jurisdictions that provided data for this template. The County's General Liability claims, expenditures and percent that proceeded to litigation during the reporting period are all relatively low compared to the other responding cities and counties.

An important point to note about the ICMA comparative data effort is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have demonstrated that they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark.

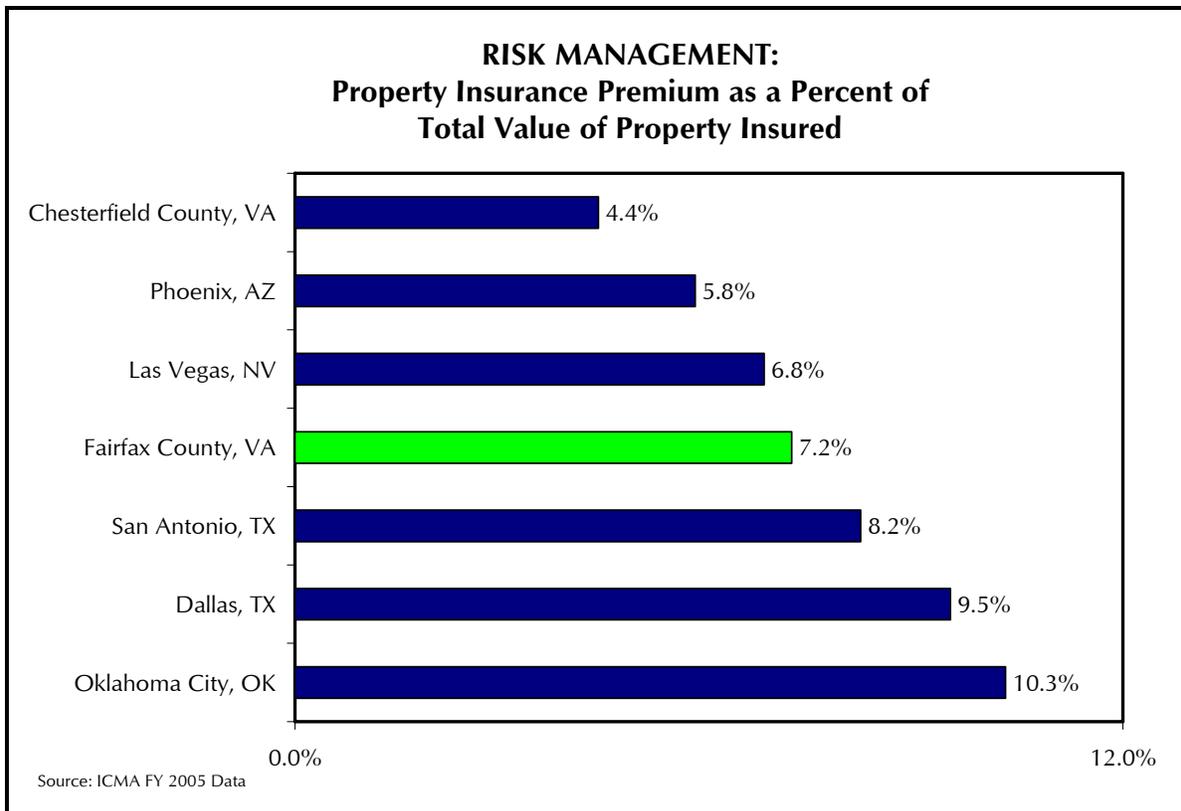
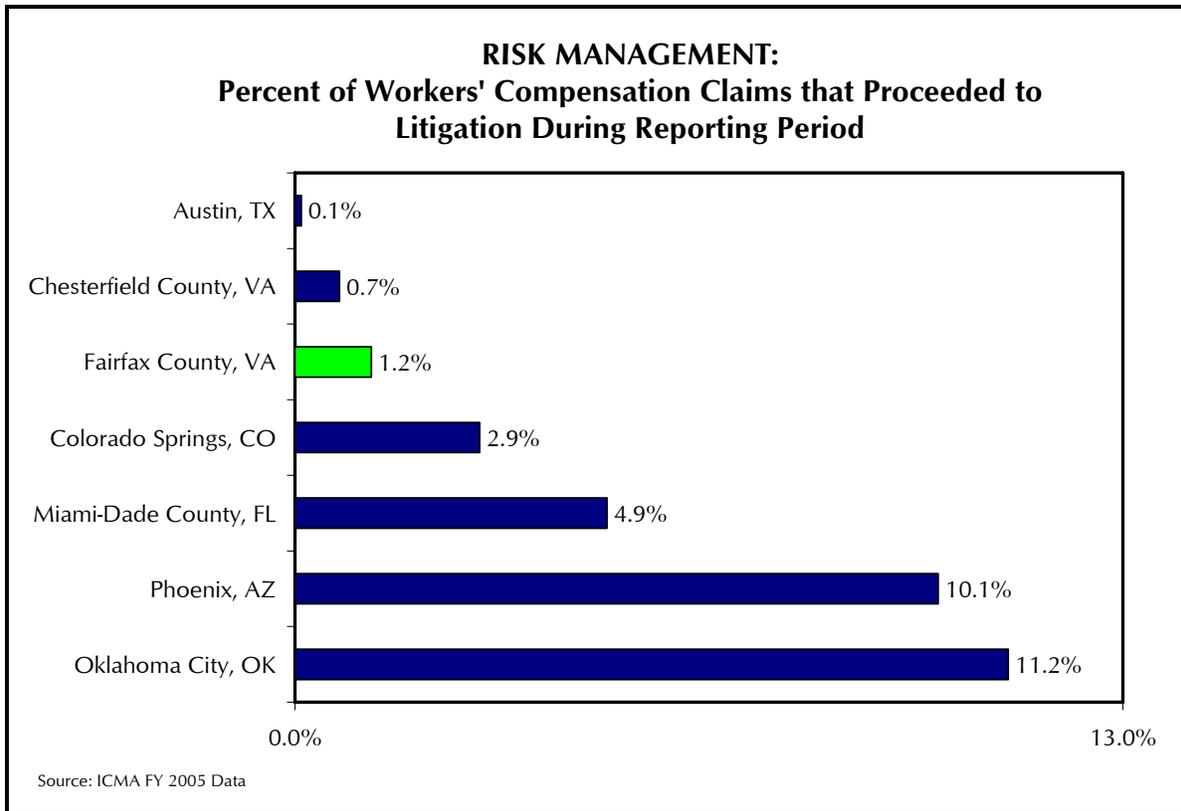
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



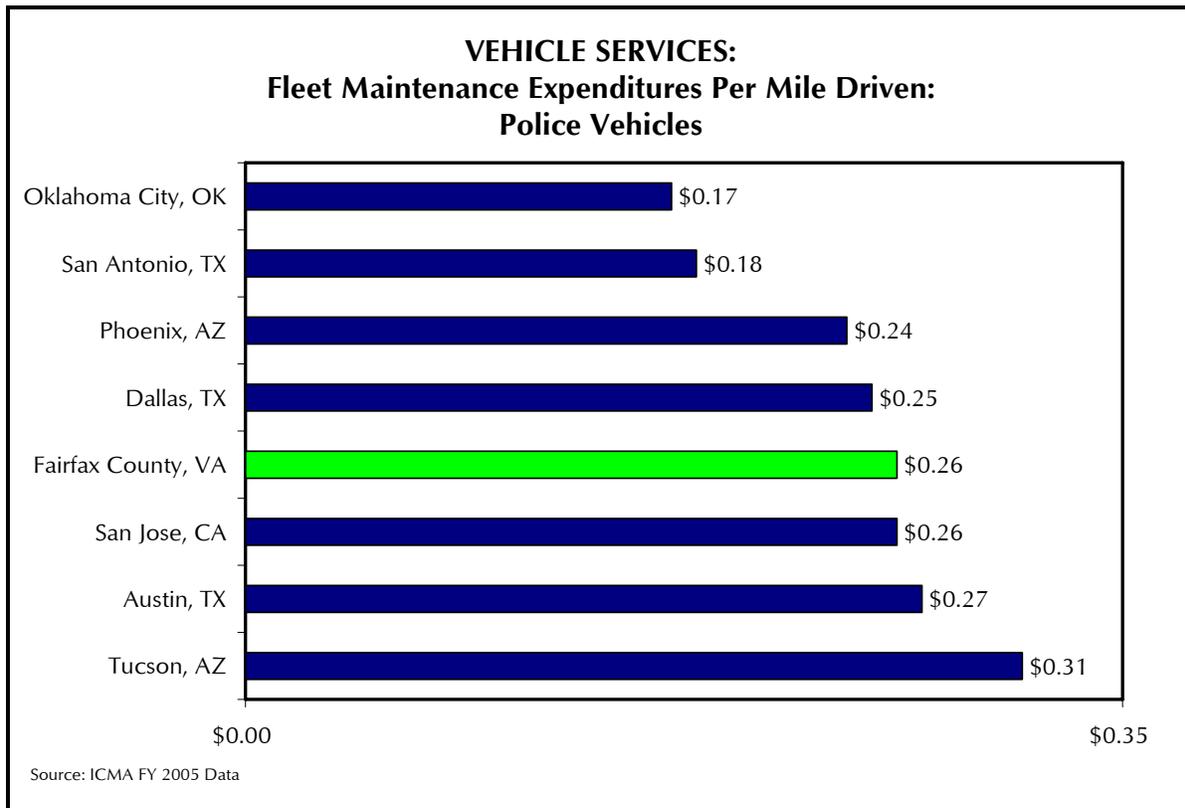
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

Department of Vehicle Services (Fund 503) Benchmarking Charts

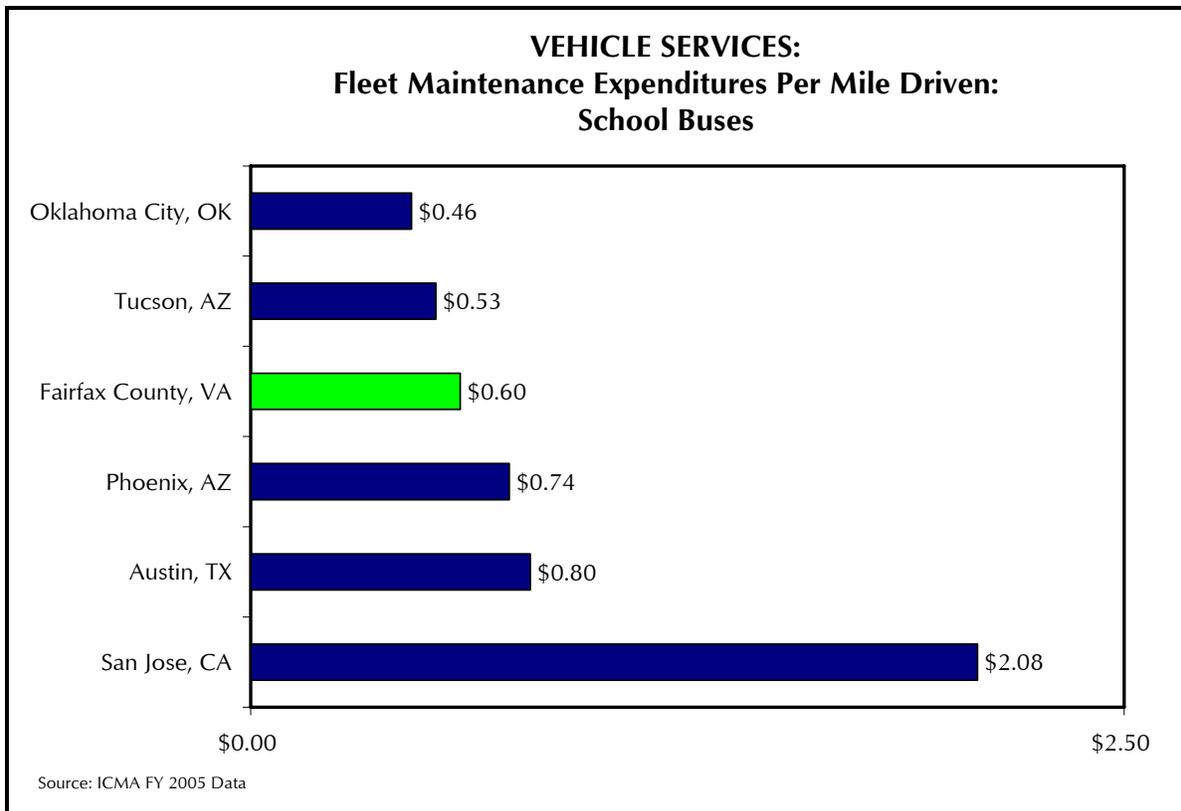
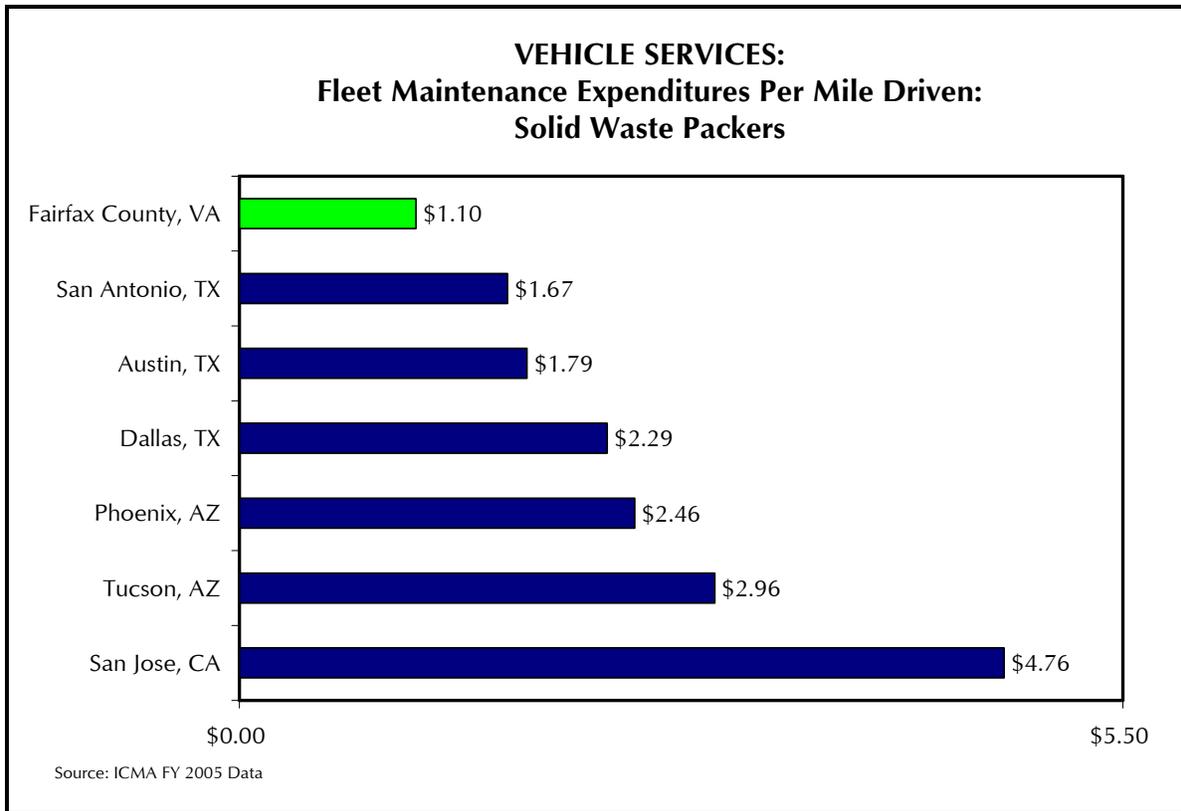
As a means of enhancing accountability, benchmarking data have been included in the annual budget since FY 2005. These data are included in each of the Program Area Summaries in Volume 1 and now in Other Funds (Volume 2) as available. The majority of this benchmarking data come from the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) benchmarking effort in which Fairfax County has participated since 2000. Approximately 150 cities, counties and towns provide comparable data annually in 15 service areas. However, not all jurisdictions provide data for every service area. An example of which is the Roads/Highways template that Fairfax County does not complete since the Commonwealth has primary responsibility for roadways in Virginia counties.

As part of the ICMA benchmarking effort, participating local governments (cities, counties and towns) provide data on standard templates provided by ICMA in order to ensure consistency. ICMA then performs extensive checking and data cleaning to ensure the greatest accuracy and comparability of data. As a result of the time to collect the data and undergo ICMA's rigorous data cleaning processes, information is always available with a one-year delay. FY 2005 data represent the latest available information. The jurisdictions presented in the graphs on the following pages generally show how Fairfax County compares to other large jurisdictions (population over 500,000). In cases where other Virginia localities provided data, they are shown as well.

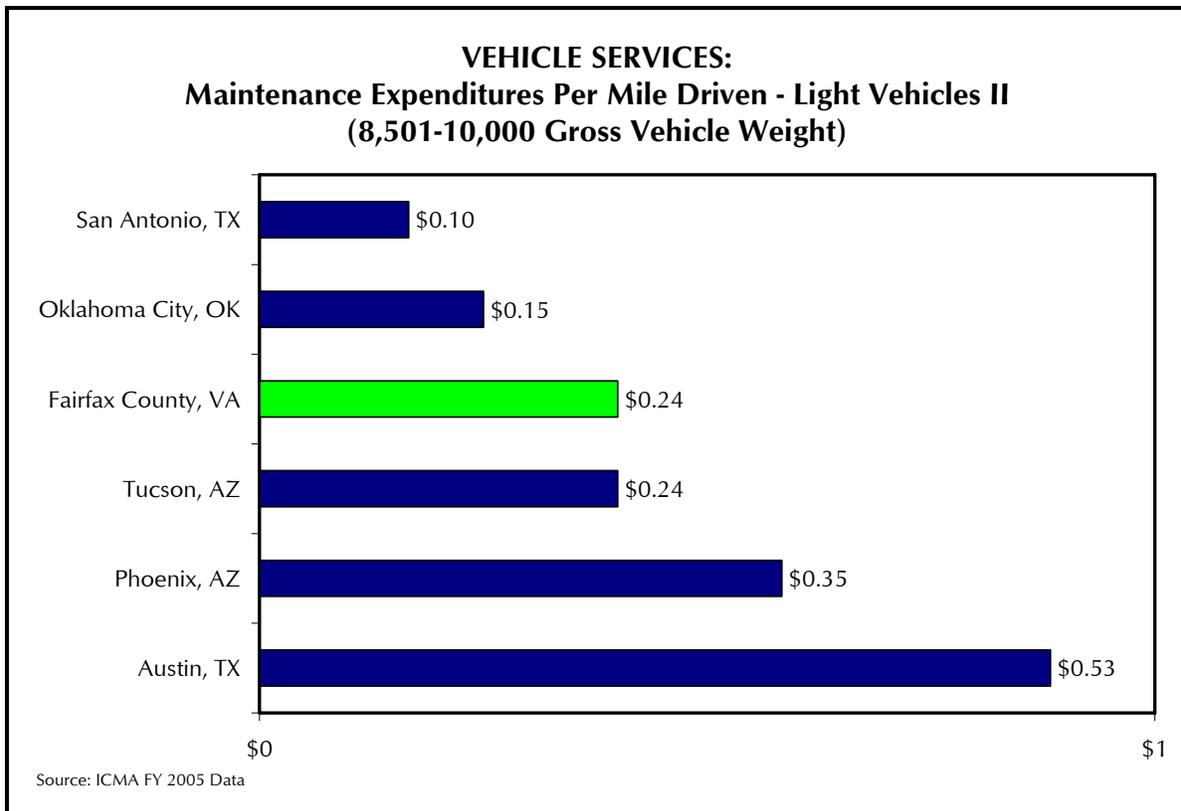
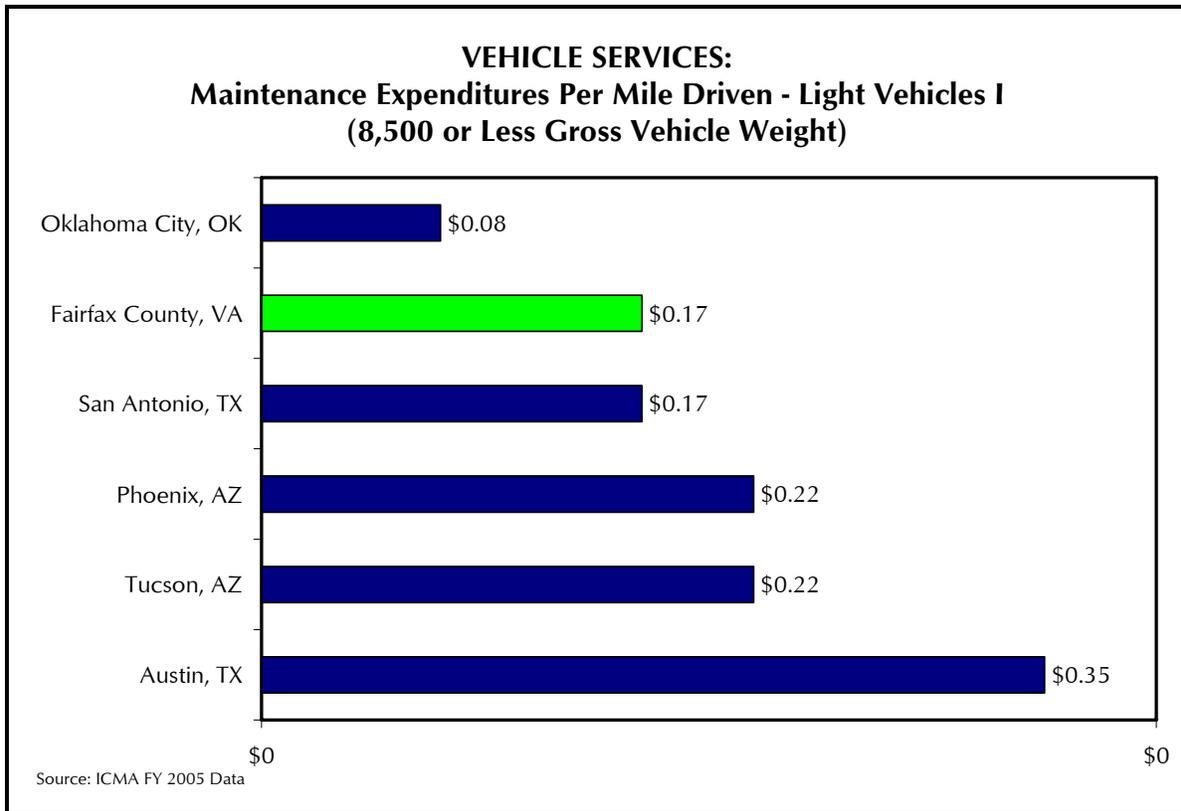
Fleet Management is one of the service areas for which Fairfax County provides data. An important point to note about the ICMA comparative data effort is that since participation is voluntary, the jurisdictions that provide data have demonstrated that they are committed to becoming/remaining high performance organizations. Therefore, comparisons made through this program should be considered in the context that the participants have self-selected and are inclined to be among the higher performers than a random sample among local governments nationwide. It is also important to note that not all jurisdictions respond to all questions. In some cases, the question or process is not applicable to a particular locality or data are not available. For those reasons, the universe of jurisdictions with which Fairfax County is compared is not always the same for each benchmark.



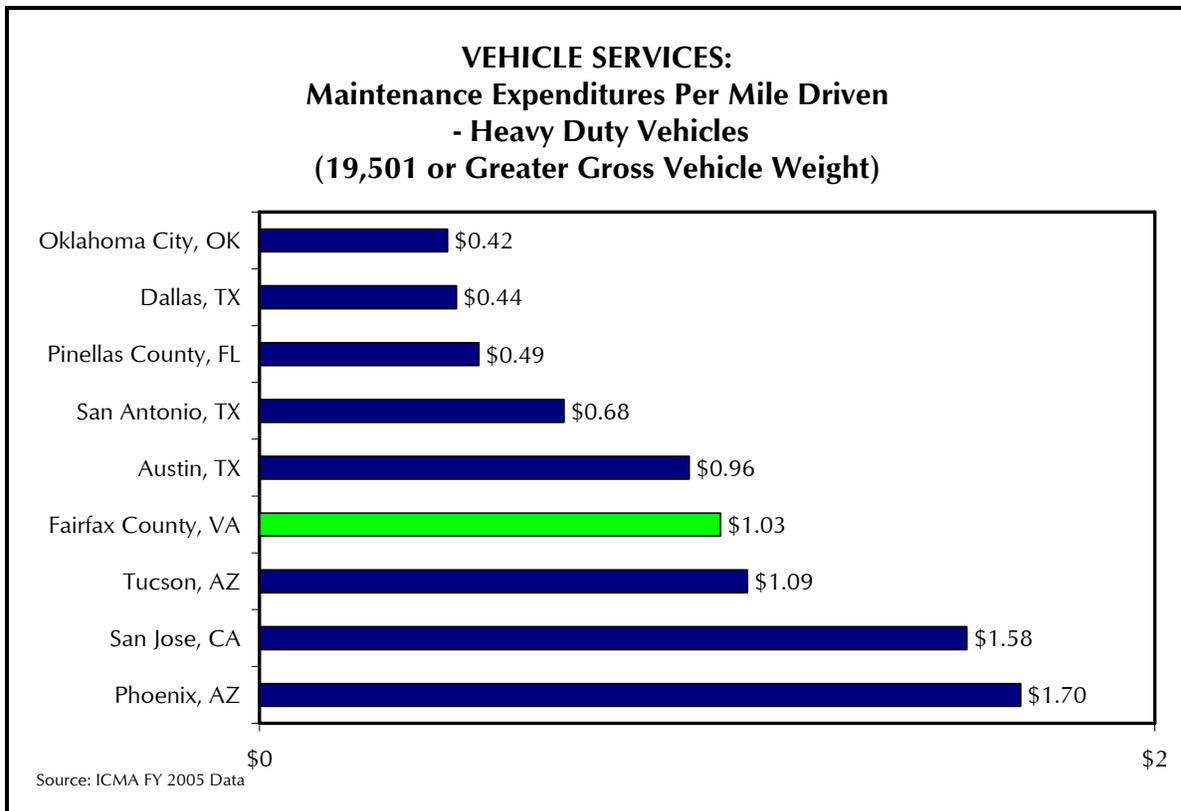
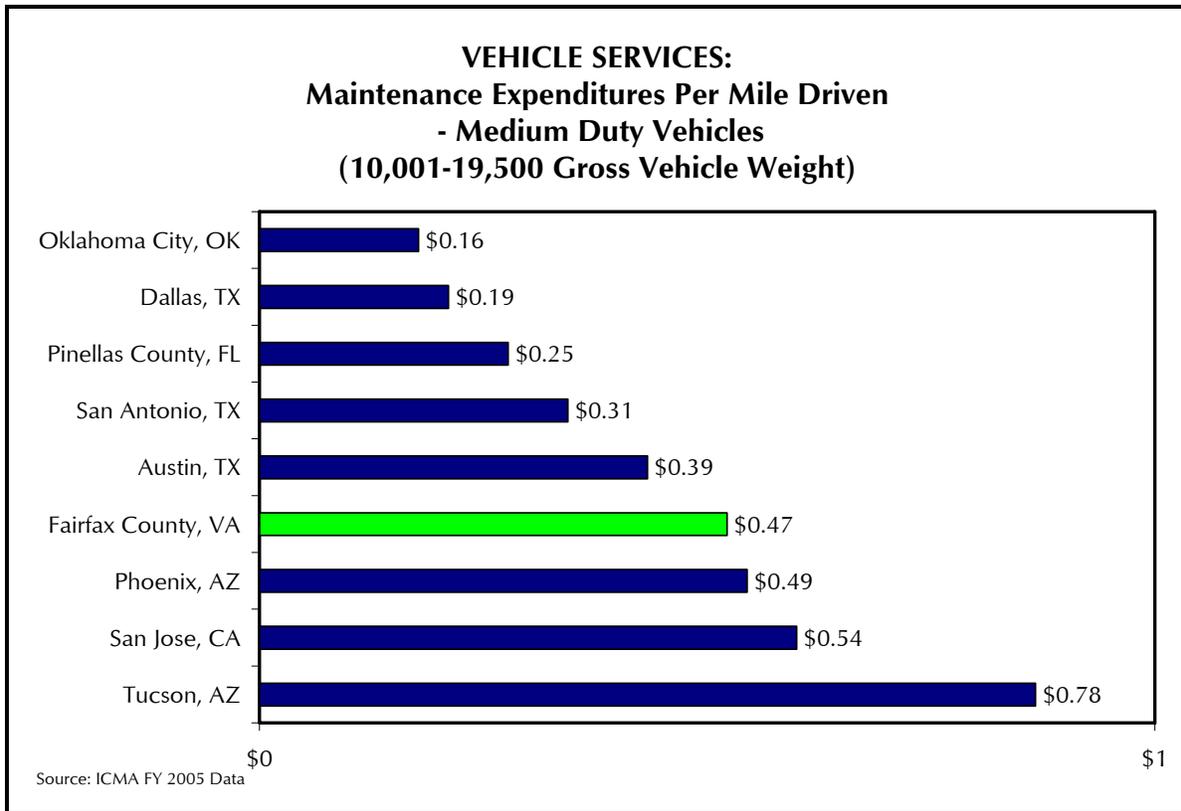
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



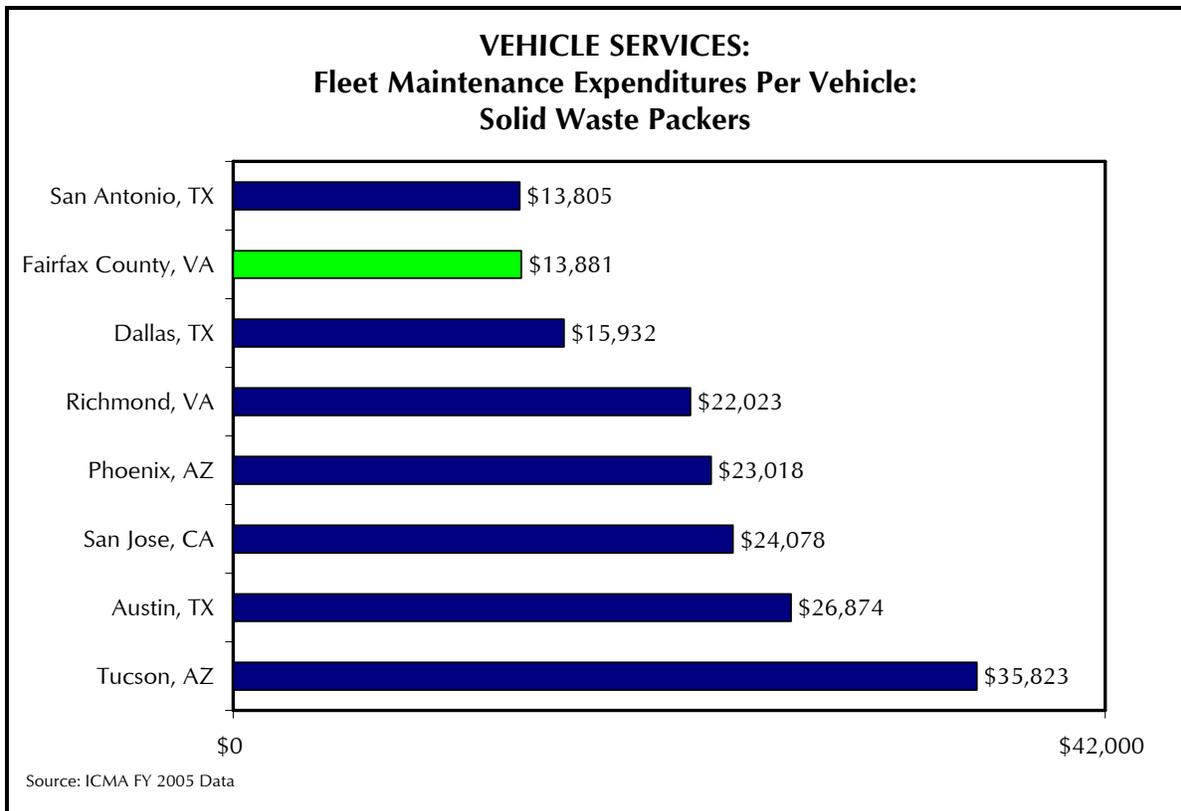
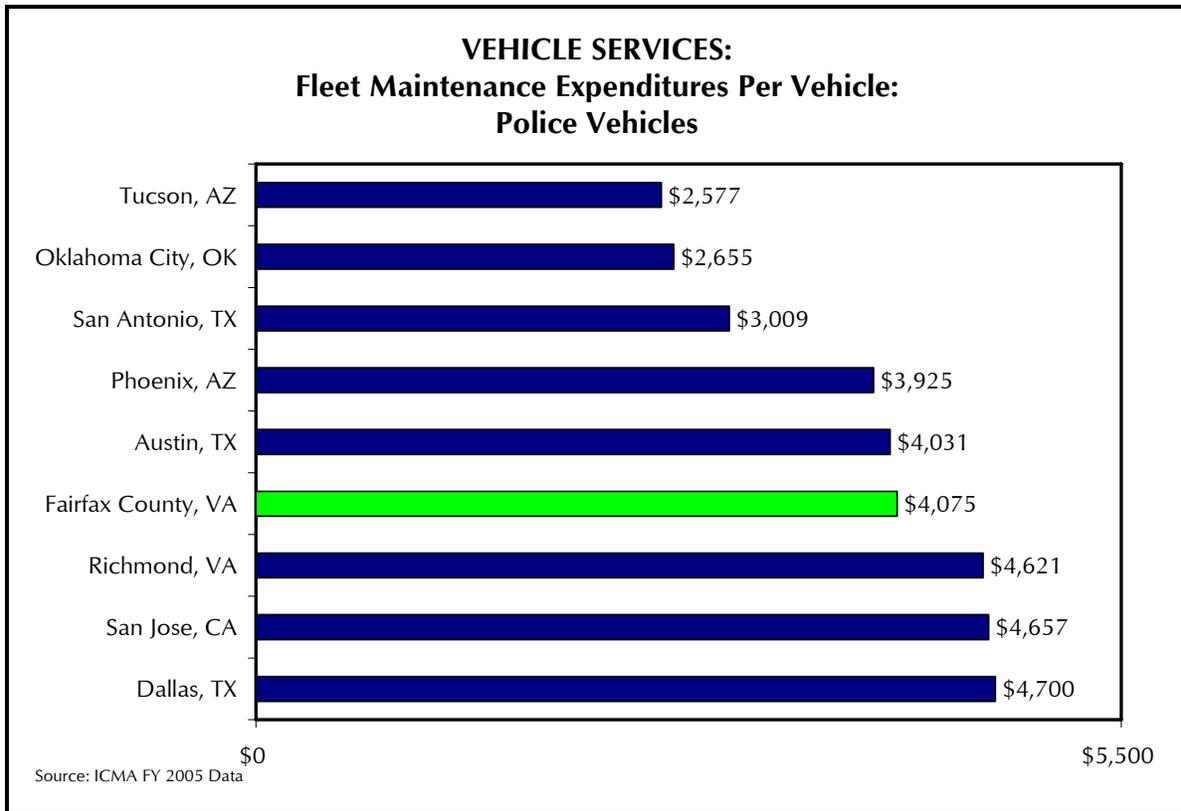
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



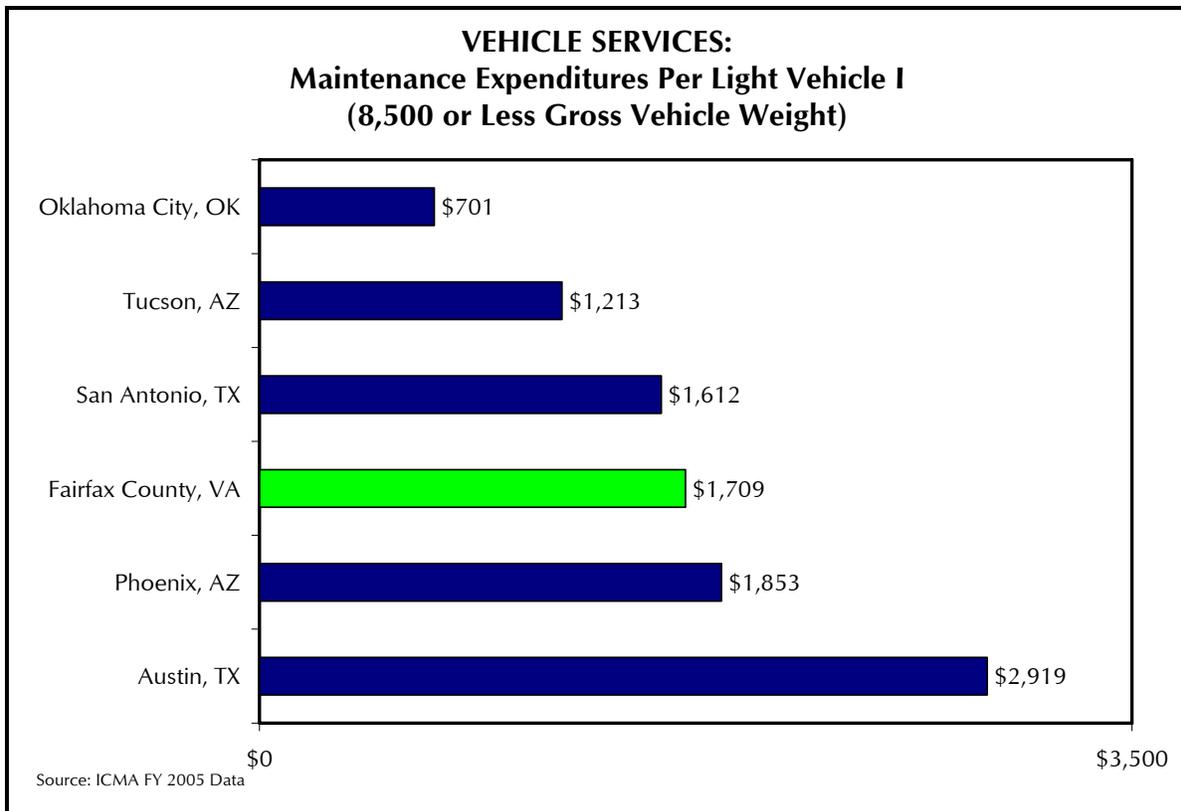
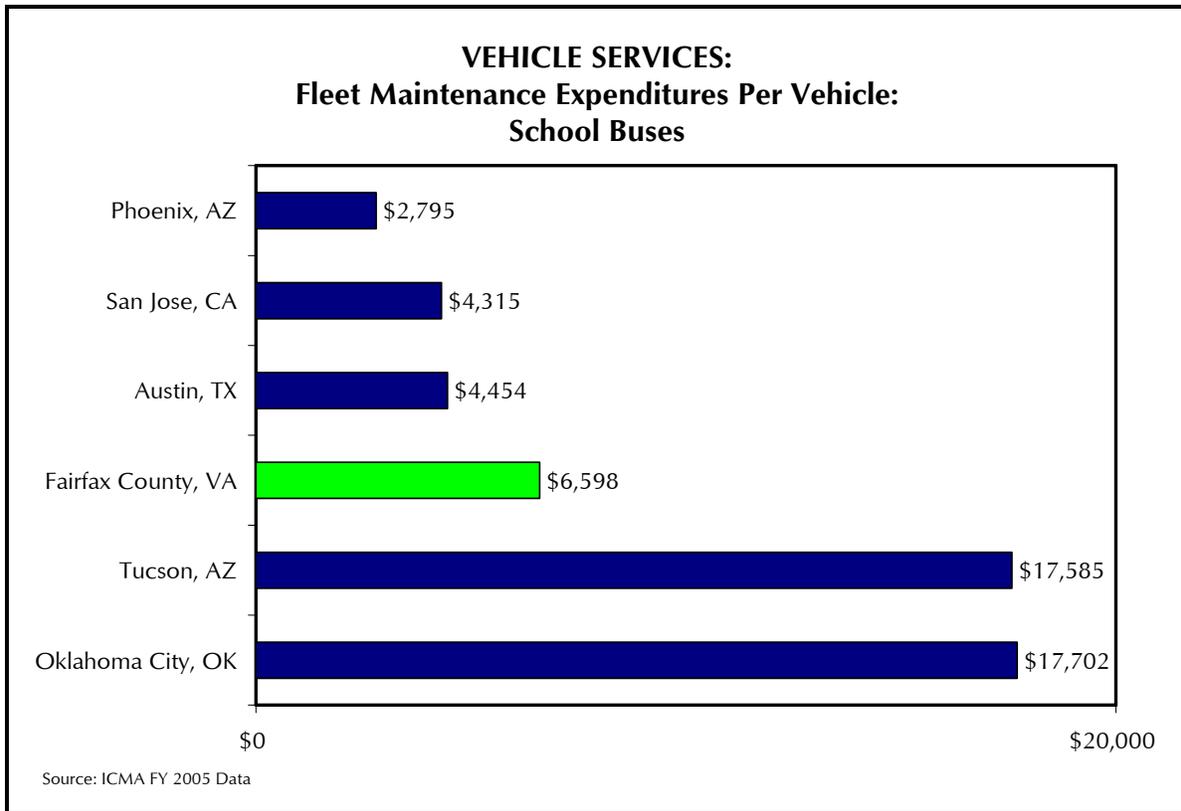
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



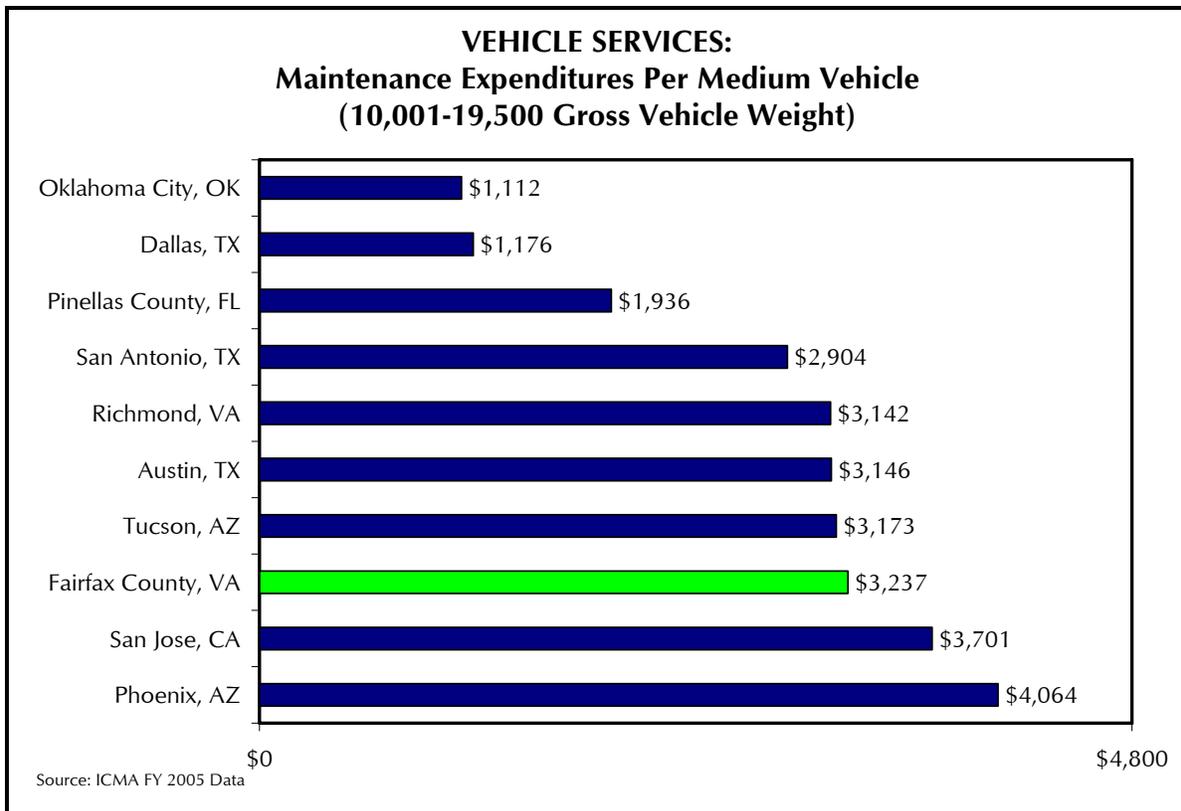
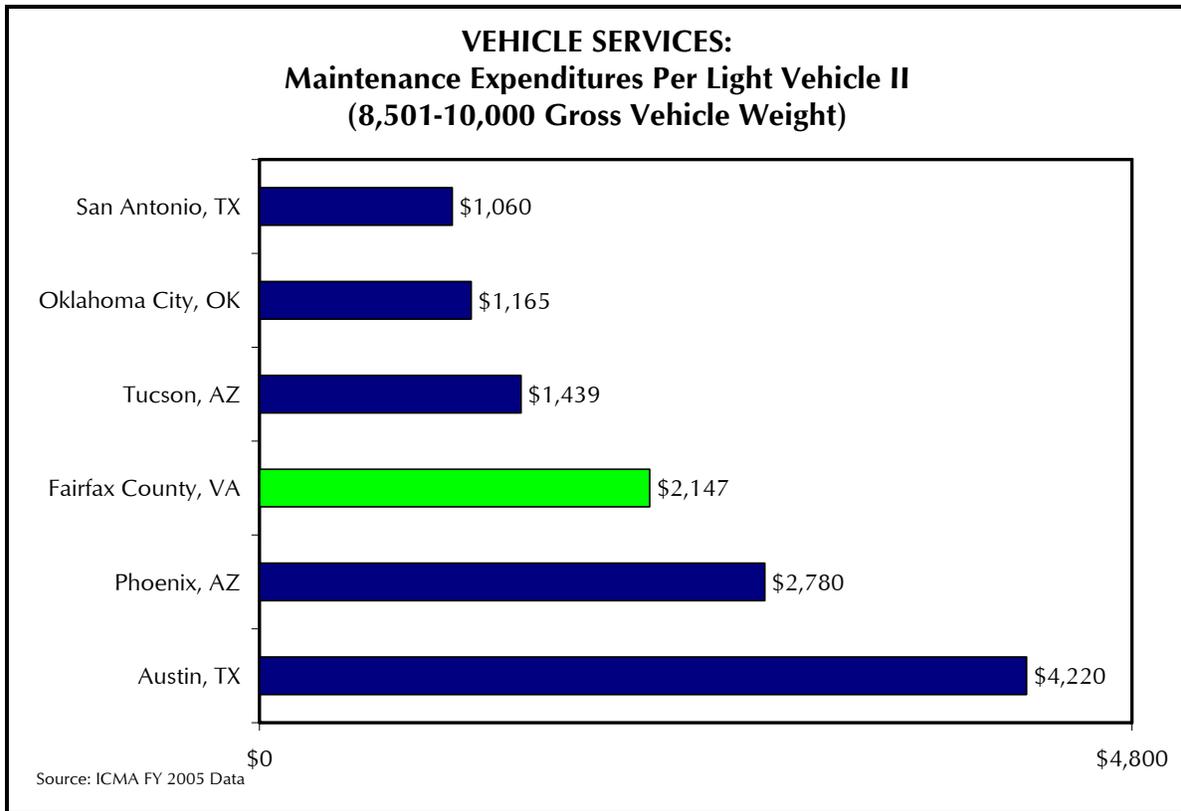
Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts



Fairfax County Benchmarking Charts

