

Trends and Demographics

Household Tax Analyses

The following analyses illustrate the impact of selected County taxes on the "typical" household from FY 2016 to FY 2022. This period provides five years of actual data, estimates for FY 2021 based on year-to-date experience, and projections for FY 2022. Historical dollar amounts are converted to FY 2022-dollar equivalents for comparison purposes using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria area. The Washington metropolitan area has experienced average annual inflation of 1.3 percent from FY 2016 to FY 2020. Using a recent forecast from the Congressional Budget Office, which incorporates the COVID-19 pandemic's effect on the economy, inflation is projected to be 1.9 percent in FY 2021 and 2.2 percent FY 2022.

Household Taxation Trends

Summary of Major Taxes Paid by Typical Households

The charts on the following pages show the trends in selected taxes (Real Estate Taxes, Personal Property Taxes, Sales Taxes and Consumer Utility Taxes) paid by the "typical" household in Fairfax County. The Real Estate Tax analysis includes the advertised FY 2022 Real Estate tax rate of \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value. It is important to note that the following data are not intended to depict a comprehensive picture of a household's total tax burden in Fairfax County.

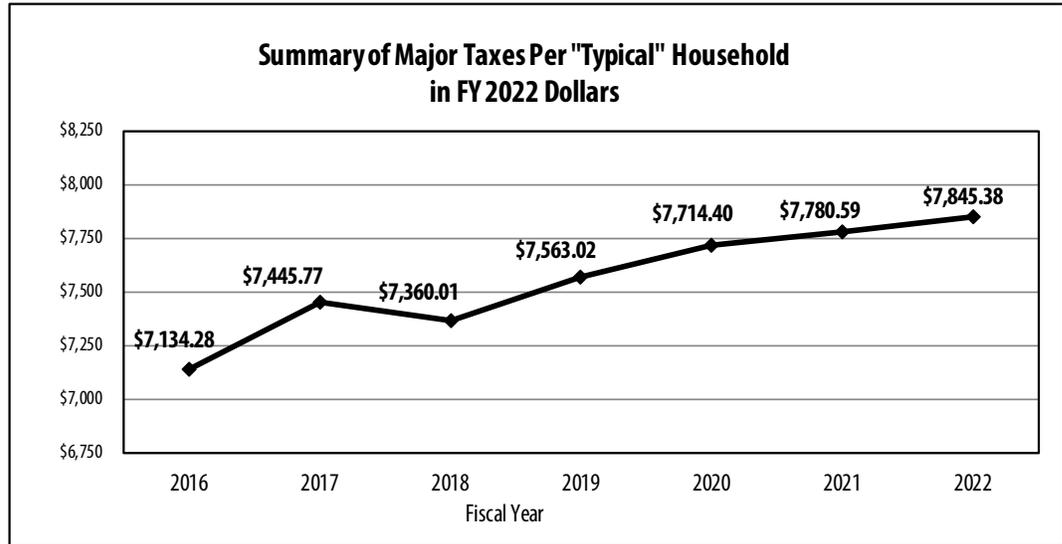
The "typical" household in Fairfax County is projected to pay \$7,845.38 in selected County General Fund taxes in FY 2022, \$64.79 more than in FY 2021 after adjusting for inflation. From FY 2016 to FY 2022, the inflation adjusted County taxes paid by the "typical" household have increased \$711.10, or 10.0 percent. Note that taxes paid in FY 2016 through FY 2022 reflect the Commonwealth's Personal Property Tax Relief Act, which reduces an individual's Personal Property Tax liability on vehicles valued up to \$20,000 (see the section entitled "Personal Property Tax per Typical Household" for more information.)

Summary of Major Taxes per "Typical" Household

	Number of Households	Real Estate Tax in FY 2022 Dollars	Personal Property Tax in FY 2022 Dollars ¹	Sales Tax in FY 2022 Dollars	Consumer Utility Tax in FY 2022 Dollars	Total Taxes in FY 2022 Dollars ¹
FY 2016	402,400	\$6,193.75	\$393.76	\$486.46	\$60.31	\$7,134.28
FY 2017	405,800	\$6,519.00	\$393.11	\$474.20	\$59.46	\$7,445.77
FY 2018	409,563	\$6,429.72	\$399.01	\$472.54	\$58.74	\$7,360.01
FY 2019	415,270	\$6,635.09	\$398.02	\$472.80	\$57.11	\$7,563.02
FY 2020	418,065	\$6,770.11	\$413.04	\$476.02	\$55.23	\$7,714.40
FY 2021²	420,638	\$6,851.71	\$401.98	\$472.20	\$54.70	\$7,780.59
FY 2022²	423,276	\$6,928.37	\$393.19	\$470.64	\$53.18	\$7,845.38

¹ Personal Property Taxes paid incorporate reductions in Personal Property Tax bills sent to citizens under the state's Personal Property Tax Relief program. The reductions were 62.0 percent in FY 2016 and FY 2017, 60.5 percent in FY 2018, 60.0 percent in FY 2019, 59.0 percent in FY 2020, and 58.5 percent in FY 2021. The reduction in FY 2022 is anticipated to remain unchanged. The difference in revenue will be paid to the County by the Commonwealth.

² Estimated.



Real Estate Taxes

Real Estate Taxes per "typical" residence are projected to increase \$224.15 between FY 2021 and FY 2022 to \$6,928.37, not adjusting for inflation. This increase is the result of the 4.25 percent increase in the mean assessed value of existing residential properties within the County, partially offset with the proposed 1-cent decrease in the FY 2022 General Fund Real Estate Tax rate to \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value.

Since FY 2016, Real Estate Taxes have increased \$1,269.81, or an average annual increase of 3.4 percent per year, not adjusting for inflation. Adjusted for inflation, Real Estate Taxes per "typical" residence are \$734.62 more than in FY 2016, an average annual increase of 1.9 percent.

Real Estate Tax per "Typical" Residence

	Mean Assessed Value of Residential Property	Tax Rate per \$100	Typical Residential Real Estate Tax	Typical Residential Real Estate Tax in FY 2022 Dollars
FY 2016	\$519,134	\$1.090	\$5,658.56	\$6,193.75
FY 2017	\$529,567	\$1.130	\$5,984.11	\$6,519.00
FY 2018	\$535,597	\$1.130	\$6,052.25	\$6,429.72
FY 2019	\$549,630	\$1.150	\$6,320.75	\$6,635.09
FY 2020	\$565,292	\$1.150	\$6,500.86	\$6,770.11
FY 2021 ¹	\$582,976	\$1.150	\$6,704.22	\$6,851.71
FY 2022 ¹	\$607,752	\$1.140	\$6,928.37	\$6,928.37

¹ Estimated.

Personal Property Taxes

Personal Property Taxes paid by the "typical" household are shown in the chart below. Personal Property Taxes paid reflect the Commonwealth of Virginia's Personal Property Tax Relief Act (PPTRA), which reduces an individual's Personal Property Tax payment. In FY 2007, statewide reimbursements were capped at \$950 million, with each locality receiving a percentage allocation from this fixed amount determined by the locality's share of statewide tax year 2004 collections. Each year, County staff must determine the reimbursement percentage based on the County's fixed reimbursement of \$211.3 million and an estimate of the number and value of vehicles that will be eligible for tax relief. As the number and value of vehicles in the County vary, the percentage attributed to the state will fluctuate. Based on a County staff analysis, the effective state reimbursement percentage was 62.0 percent in FY 2016 and FY 2017, 60.5 percent in FY 2018, 60.0 percent in FY 2019, 59.0 percent in FY 2020, and 58.5 percent in FY 2021. The reimbursement percentage in FY 2022 is anticipated to remain unchanged.

The tax per household analysis shown below assumes that the "typical" household's vehicle(s) are valued at \$20,000 or less in order to qualify for a reduction under the PPTRA. Adjusted for inflation, Personal Property Taxes per "typical" household are projected to decrease \$8.79 between FY 2021 and FY 2022 to \$393.19. The FY 2022 Personal Property Tax per "typical" household is \$33.45 higher than what was paid in FY 2016, not adjusting for inflation. When adjustments are made for inflation, the "typical" household is projected to pay \$0.57 less in FY 2022 than FY 2016. There have been no changes to the Personal Property Tax rate of \$4.57 per \$100 of assessed value for individuals during the FY 2016 to FY 2022 period, except for mobile homes and boats which are taxed at the prevailing Real Estate Tax rate each fiscal year.

The [FY 2022 Advertised Budget Plan](#) also includes an annual Vehicle Registration Fee on motor vehicles. The fee will be levied at \$33 for passenger vehicles that weigh 4,000 pounds or less and \$38 on passenger vehicles that weight more than 4,000 pounds. The fee for motorcycles is \$18.

Personal Property Tax Per "Typical" Household

	Personal Property Taxes Attributed to Individuals	Number of Households	Tax per Household	Tax per Household in FY 2022 Dollars	After PPTRA	
					Adjusted Tax per Household ¹	Adjusted Tax per Household in FY 2022 Dollars ¹
FY 2016	\$380,942,855	402,400	\$946.68	\$1,036.22	\$359.74	\$393.76
FY 2017	\$385,350,570	405,800	\$949.61	\$1,034.49	\$360.85	\$393.11
FY 2018	\$389,434,193	409,563	\$950.85	\$1,010.15	\$375.59	\$399.01
FY 2019	\$393,639,253	415,270	\$947.91	\$995.05	\$379.16	\$398.02
FY 2020	\$404,410,283	418,065	\$967.34	\$1,007.41	\$396.61	\$413.04
FY 2021 ²	\$398,673,110	420,638	\$947.78	\$968.63	\$393.33	\$401.98
FY 2022 ²	\$401,031,165	423,276	\$947.45	\$947.45	\$393.19	\$393.19

¹ Personal Property Taxes paid incorporate reductions in Personal Property Tax bills sent to citizens under the state's Personal Property Tax Relief program. The reductions were 62.0 percent in FY 2016 and FY 2017, 60.5 percent in FY 2018, 60.0 percent in FY 2019, 59.0 percent in FY 2020, and 58.5 percent in FY 2021. The reduction in FY 2022 is anticipated to remain unchanged. The difference in revenue will be paid to the County by the Commonwealth.

² Estimated.

Sales Tax

FY 2022 Sales Tax paid per household is estimated to be \$470.74 or \$26.21 less than FY 2016, not adjusting for inflation. This represents an average annual decrease of 1.0 percent since FY 2016. Adjusting for inflation, FY 2022 Sales Tax paid per household is estimated to be \$15.82 less than FY 2016, an average annual decrease of 0.5 percent.

Because this analysis assumes all Sales Taxes are paid by individuals living in Fairfax County, the impact on the typical household is somewhat overstated. A segment of the County's Sales Tax revenues is paid by businesses and non-residents who either work in the County or are visiting. As the County becomes more of a major employment hub in the region, the contribution of non-residents to the County's Sales Tax revenues will continue to expand.

Sales Tax Per "Typical" Household

	Total Sales Tax	Number of Households	Tax per Household	Tax per Household in FY 2022 Dollars
FY 2016	\$178,839,665	402,400	\$444.43	\$486.46
FY 2017	\$176,640,592	405,800	\$435.29	\$474.20
FY 2018	\$182,172,429	409,563	\$444.80	\$472.54
FY 2019	\$187,037,828	415,270	\$450.40	\$472.80
FY 2020	\$191,092,140	418,065	\$457.09	\$476.02
FY 2021 ¹	\$194,350,951	420,638	\$462.04	\$472.20
FY 2022 ¹	\$199,209,725	423,276	\$470.64	\$470.64

¹ Estimated.

Consumer Utility Taxes

Based on data from the utility companies, it is estimated that residential consumers pay approximately 43.0 percent of the Electric Taxes and 73.0 percent of the Gas Taxes received by the County. Utility Taxes per household decreased slightly from FY 2016 through FY 2022. In FY 2022, the "typical" household will pay an estimated \$53.18 in Consumer Utility Taxes, \$1.92 less than in FY 2016, without adjusting for inflation. From FY 2016 to FY 2022, the "typical" household has experienced an average annual decrease of 2.1 percent, or \$7.13 over the period, adjusted for inflation.

Consumer Utility Taxes – Gas & Electric Per "Typical" Household

	Total Consumer Utility Taxes Paid by Residential Consumers	Number of Households	Tax per Household	Tax per Household in FY 2022 Dollars
FY 2016	\$22,171,148	402,400	\$55.10	\$60.31
FY 2017	\$22,148,894	405,800	\$54.58	\$59.46
FY 2018	\$22,644,509	409,563	\$55.29	\$58.74
FY 2019	\$22,589,978	415,270	\$54.40	\$57.11
FY 2020	\$22,168,727	418,065	\$53.03	\$55.23
FY 2021 ¹	\$22,510,713	420,638	\$53.52	\$54.70
FY 2022 ¹	\$22,510,713	423,276	\$53.18	\$53.18

¹ Estimated.

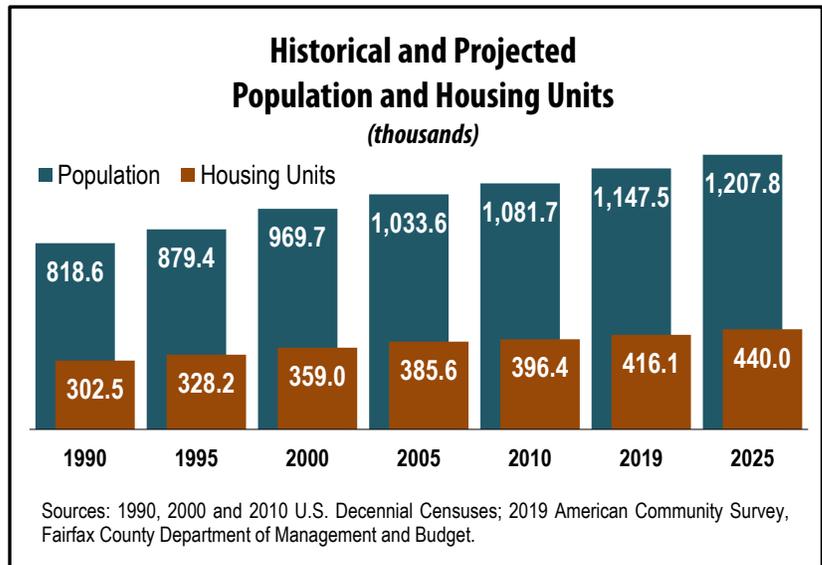
Demographic Trends

Demographic trends strongly influence Fairfax County’s budget. Changing demographics or population characteristics affect both the cost of government services provided, as well as tax revenues. The descriptions and charts contained in this section provide some examples of how various demographic trends affect the Fairfax County budget. Although these trends are discussed separately, the interactions between these demographic trends ultimately influence the direction of expenditures and revenues. While certain demographic trends may suggest reduced expenditures in a program area, other demographic trends may increase program expenditures at the same time. The following information is based on the most recent data available at the time of publication.

Population and Housing

Some of the strongest demographic influences on Fairfax County expenditures and revenues are those associated with the growth in total population and housing units. From 1990 to 2000, the County added over 151,100 residents. This increase in Fairfax County’s population between 1990 and 2000 is comparable to adding more than the entire population of the City of Alexandria to the County. The County’s population growth decelerated, adding 112,000 residents between 2000 and 2010. Based on the 2019 American Community Survey, Fairfax County had a population of 1,147,532 residents in 2019. Between 2010 and 2025, the population of Fairfax County is expected to increase over 126,100 residents to 1,207,800.

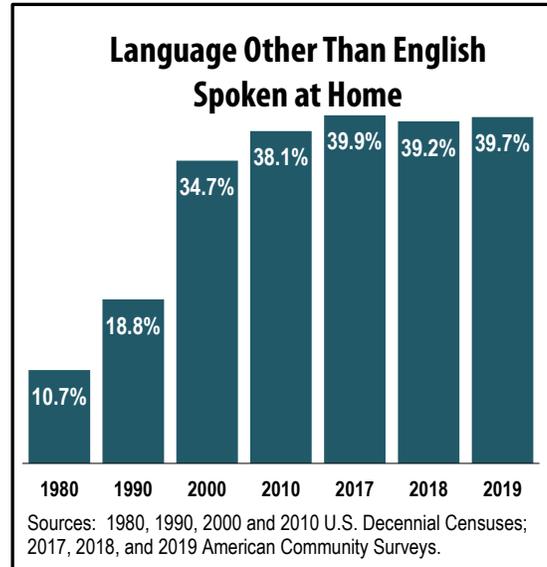
Between 1990 and 2000, housing units grew 18.7 percent, just slightly above population growth of 18.5 percent. From 2000 to 2010, this trend reversed, with population growth at 11.5 percent, surpassing housing unit growth of 10.4 percent. From 2010 to 2025, population



and housing units are anticipated to grow 11.7 percent and 11.0 percent, respectively. Many County programs, such as fire prevention, transit, water, and sewer, are impacted by the number of housing units. Other program areas such as libraries, recreation, and schools, are impacted more by the growth in population.

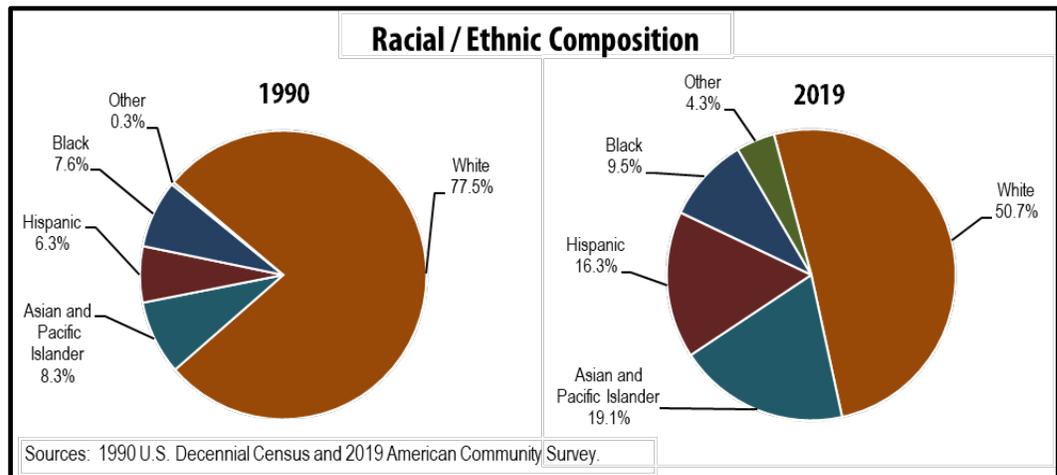
Cultural Diversity

Fairfax County's population is rich in diversity. Based on the 2019 American Community Survey, the number of persons speaking a language other than English at home is estimated to be approximately 427,460 residents, or 39.7 percent of the County's population age five years or older. In 1980, less than 11 percent of residents age five years or older spoke a language other than English at home. This percentage rose to nearly 19 percent in 1990. By 2000, it was 34.7 percent. The most frequently spoken languages other than English include Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese.



These language trends affect many County programs. For example, the Fairfax County Public Schools have experienced rapid

growth in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs. Between FY 2000 and FY 2020, total public school membership increased 21.9 percent, while ESOL enrollment grew 169.7 percent. Also, general government services such as the courts, police, fire, and emergency medical services, as well as human service programs and tax related programs are impacted by the County's cultural and language diversity. The County continues to develop various means to effectively communicate with residents for whom English is not their native language.



In 1990, racial and ethnic minorities comprised less than a quarter of Fairfax County's population. In 2019, roughly half of the County's population consisted of ethnic minorities. The two fastest growing groups are Hispanics and Asians and Pacific Islanders, which have both more than doubled their share of the County's population between 1990 and 2019. These two minority groups are anticipated to remain the County's most rapidly expanding racial or ethnic groups during the next five years. As the County's population continues to become more diverse, the number of persons speaking a language other than English at home is anticipated to continue to grow and impact a wide range of services provided by the County.

Population Age Distribution

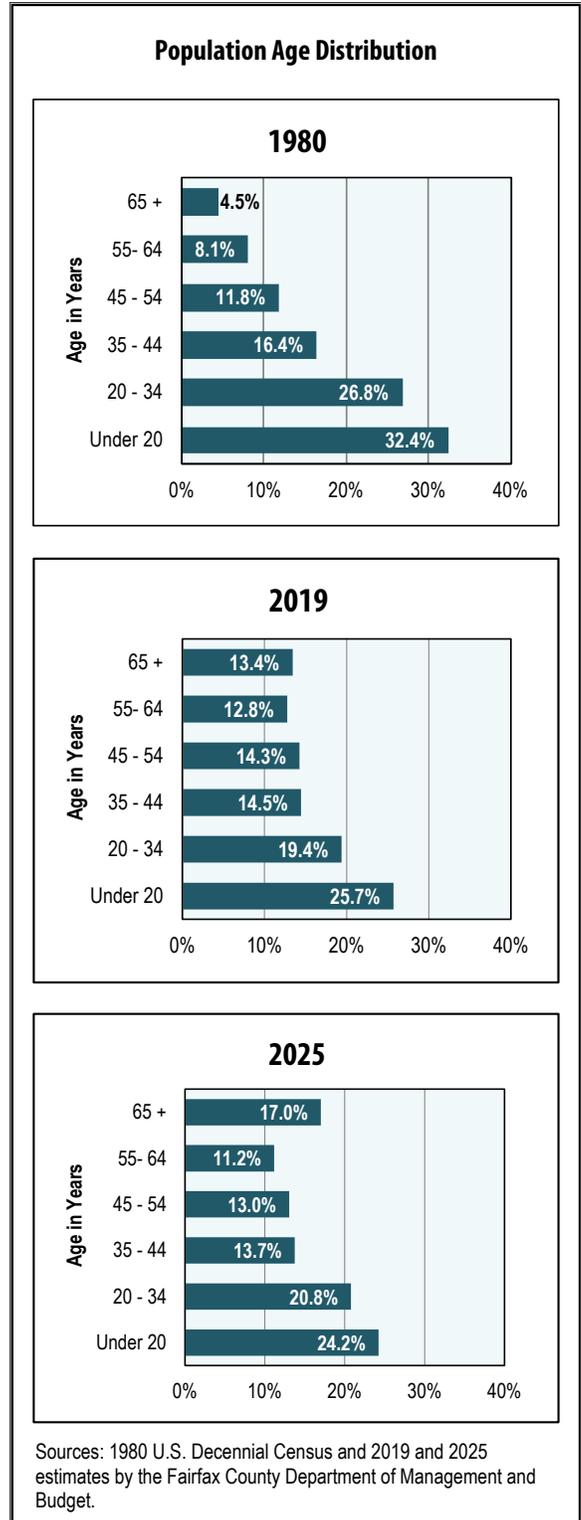
Fairfax County's population has grown steadily older since 1980. Between 1980 and 2019, the percentage of children age 19 years and younger became a smaller proportion of the total population, dropping from 32.4 percent to 25.7 percent in 2019. It is anticipated that the percentage of children will decrease somewhat through 2025, with the percentage of those 19 years old and younger decreasing slightly to 24.2 percent.

The number of adults age 45 to 54 years peaked in 2008, as the first "baby boomers" entered into their fifties. This age group's sharp growth trend has since reversed, as the "baby boomers" move to the next age groups.

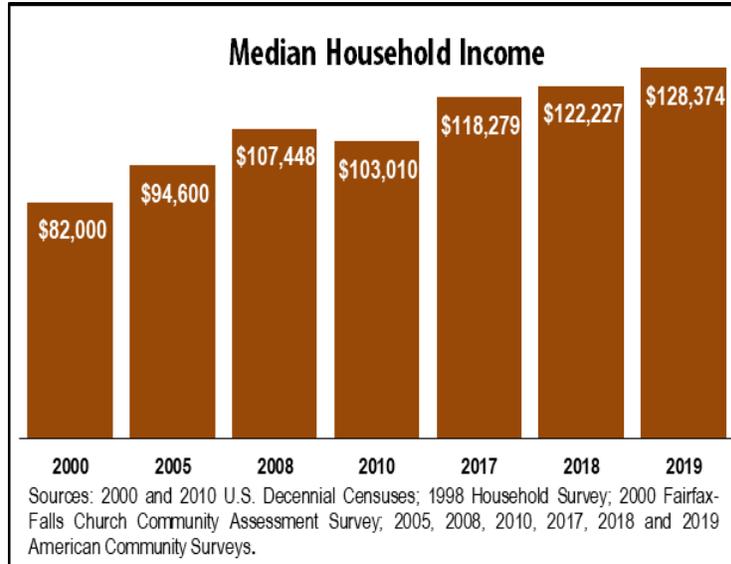
Between 1980 and 2019, the seniors' population, those age 65 years and older, nearly tripled in size and was the fastest growing segment of County residents. This age group is expected to continue increasing in size, with its share of the population reaching 17.0 percent by 2025, up from 4.5 percent in 1980.

The age distribution of Fairfax County's population greatly impacts the demand and, therefore, the costs of providing many local government services. For example, the number, location, and size of school and day care facilities are directly affected by the number and proportion of children. Transportation expenditures for both street maintenance and public transportation are influenced by the number and proportion of driving age adults and their work locations. The growing number of persons age 65 years and older will influence expenditures for programs such as adult day care, senior centers, and health care.

Public safety programs also are impacted by age demographics. Crime rates, for example, are highest among persons age 15 to 34. In addition, the youngest and the oldest drivers have the greatest probability of being involved in traffic accidents.



Household Income

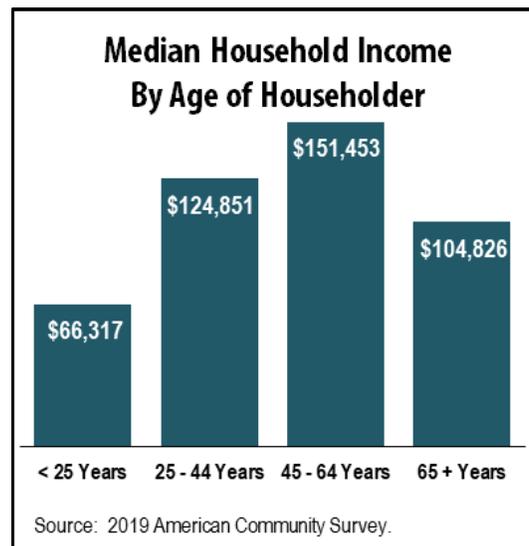


The median household income in Fairfax County was \$128,374 in 2019, one of the highest in the nation for counties with a population of 250,000 or more. Fairfax County's 2019 median household income increased 5.0 percent compared to 2018. Consequently, households in Fairfax County had more disposable income to spend or save. Since 2000, median household income in the County has risen at a rate of 2.3 percent per year.

Income growth does not directly impact Fairfax County tax revenues because localities in Virginia do not tax income; however, revenues are indirectly affected because changes in income impact the County's economic health. Tax categories affected by income include Sales Tax receipts, Residential Real Estate Taxes and Personal Property Taxes.

Incomes peak among persons aged 45 to 64 years, who are in their prime earning years. As the number of households headed by this age group is projected to shrink during the next 10 years, various tax revenues may be impacted. Sales Tax revenues, for instance, may experience more modest growth. The median income for heads of households between the ages of 45 and 64 was \$151,453 in 2019.

The median household income of people ages 65 or older drops to \$104,826. A population containing a larger number of seniors, age 65 and older, will put downward pressure on tax revenues. These senior households are typically on a fixed income and have less discretionary money to spend. In addition, persons in this age group own fewer motor vehicles and may qualify for Real Estate Tax Relief.



Economic Trends

Housing Market

In FY 2022, Real Estate Tax revenue is projected to comprise over 67 percent of all General Fund revenues and residential properties make up the majority of the value of the Real Estate Tax base. As a result, the changes in the residential housing market have a very significant impact on Fairfax County's revenues.



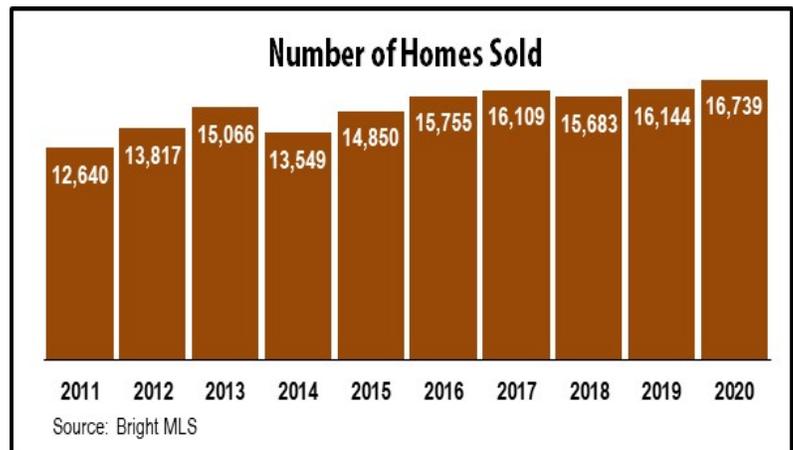
Average Sales Price of Housing

Based on data from Bright MLS, the average sales price for all types of homes sold in Fairfax County increased 8.4 percent from \$601,506 in 2019 to \$652,320 in 2020. Since 2009, the

average sales price of housing has risen 56.4 percent, for an average annual growth rate of 4.1 percent.

Homes Sold in Fairfax County

Based on data from Bright MLS, 16,739 homes were sold in Fairfax County during 2020, a 3.7 percent increase over the 16,144 sold in 2019. The number of homes sold peaked in 2004, when 25,717 homes were sold and hit a low point of 12,640 in 2011. Including 2020, the number of homes sold has averaged 16,189 over the past three years. The average days on the market for active residential real estate listings in Fairfax County was 19 days for all of 2020, down from 24 days in 2019.

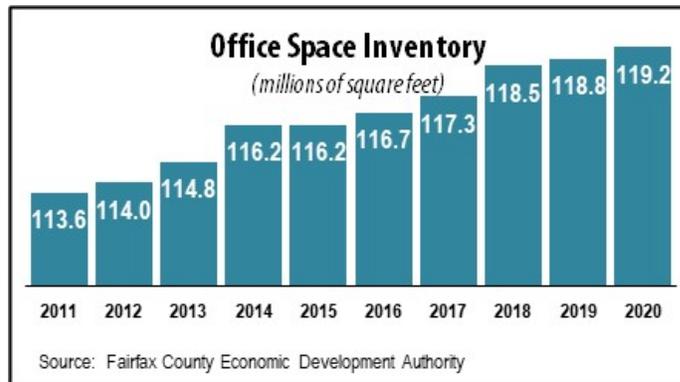


Office Market

Business activity has an effect on Real Estate Taxes, Business Personal Property Tax revenues and Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) revenues. Business expansion also influences expenditures for water and sewer services, transportation improvements, police, and fire services, and refuse disposal. According to the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, the commercial real estate market in 2021 is expected to experience increasing vacancies from the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Office Space Inventory

The largest component of non-residential space in the County is office space. The office space inventory exceeded 119.2 million square feet as of year-end 2020, an increase of more than 0.4 million square feet over 2019.

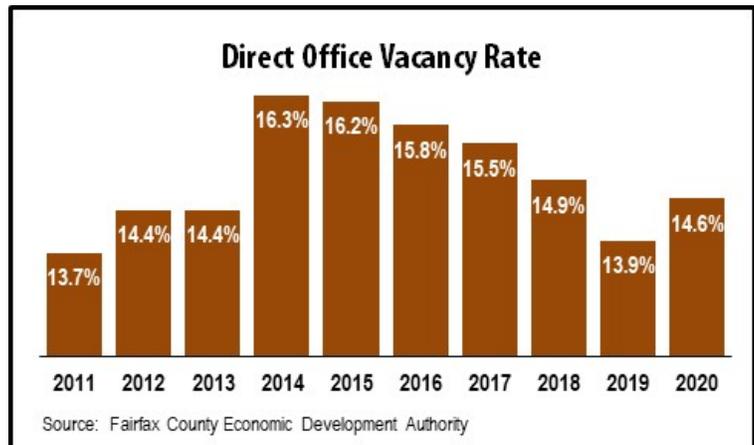


The increase is due in large part to the concentration of activity in Reston and Springfield. Since 2010, the total inventory of office space in Fairfax County has risen about 6.0 million square feet. As of year-end 2020, approximately 2.9 million square feet of space were under construction in the County. Office construction timelines in

the County have not been affected by COVID-19. Construction has remained strong in projects that have no committed anchor tenants, illustrating a continued confidence in future office demand in trophy, metro-proximate buildings.

Office Vacancy Rates

The direct office vacancy rate increased from 13.9 percent in 2019 to 14.6 percent as of year-end 2020, marking the first year of increased vacancy since 2014. Demand for space near Metro stations remained strong while many older properties experienced increased vacancies. Including sublet space, the overall office vacancy rate as of year-end 2020 was 15.5 percent, up from the 14.4 percent recorded as of year-end 2019. The amount of empty office space increased to 18.5 million square feet. Office leasing activity totaled over 3.4 million square feet during the first half of 2020, compared to 4.6 million square feet leased in the back half of 2019.



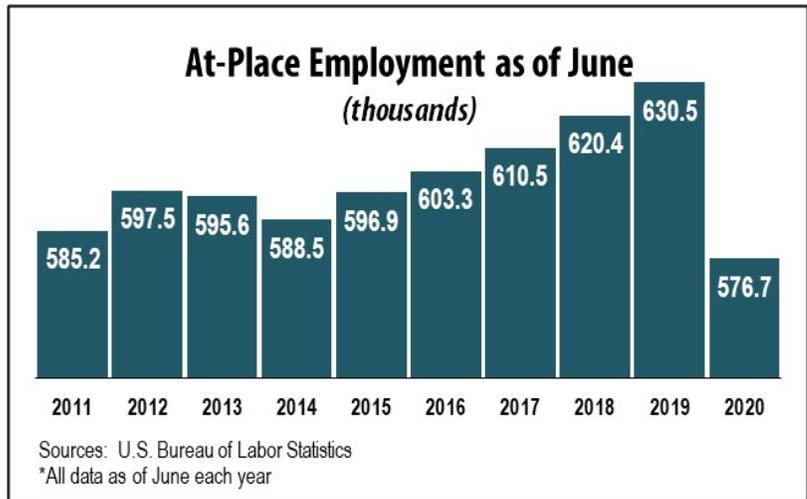
Employment

Employment serves as a gauge of the number of jobs created by businesses located in Fairfax County. Growth in both employment and the number of businesses generate increased tax revenues and additional expenditures for Fairfax County. Unemployment rates show the strength of the Fairfax County economy by indicating how many Fairfax County residents are actively seeking but are unable to obtain employment.

At-Place Employment

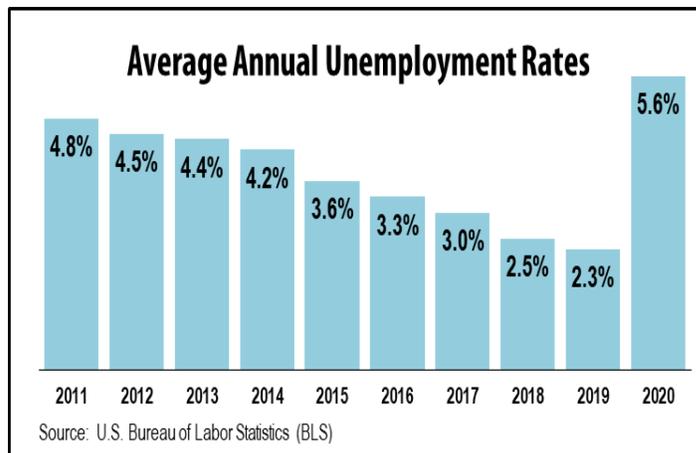
According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), after the end of a steep recession, jobs in the County expanded at modest rates of 0.8 percent and 0.7 percent in 2010 and 2011, respectively.

In 2012, employment growth rose by 12,400 jobs, or 2.1 percent, and the number of jobs exceeded its pre-recession peak. However, job losses occurred in 2013 and 2014 primarily due to federal spending cuts that reduced federal employment and professional and business services



employment. Employment fell 0.3 percent in 2013 and 1.2 percent in 2014. Employment increased steadily from 2014 to 2019, at an annualized rate of 1.4 percent. In 2020, June employment decreased by 8.5 percent from the previous June due to COVID-19 pandemic related shutdowns. This represented a loss of approximately 53,800 jobs from June 2019. Total employment of 576,733 was approximately the same level as in June 2009.

Unemployment Rates



During the last decade, residents of Fairfax County have experienced relatively low unemployment rates. In the aftermath of the Great Recession, the unemployment rate fell each year until 2019 before spiking in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic related shutdowns. In 2020, the unemployment rate was 5.6 percent.