

THE STATE OF THE POOR



The Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board

This bookmark contains information about Fairfax County's low-income population. The data are drawn from the U.S. Census Bureau's *American Community Survey* (2019 data) and county resources.

Poverty in Fairfax County

In 2019, poverty for a family of four is defined as a family annual income of less than \$25,750 per year.

Of the 1,136,115 County Population*

68,141

(6.0% or 1 in 17)
people live in poverty.

6,955

(10.0% or 1 in 13)
children under age 5
live in poverty.

7,404

(4.7% or 1 in 18)
people over age 65 live
in poverty.

22,195

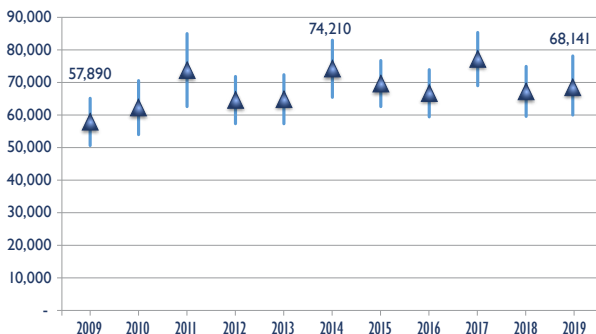
(8.4% or 1 in 14)
children under age 18
live in poverty.

167,544

(14.7% or 1 in 6)
county residents have
incomes under 200
percent of poverty.

* For whom poverty is determined.

Fairfax County Population Below Poverty 2009–2019 with Margin of Error



Economic Security

According to the MIT Living Wage Calculator¹ families working in low-wage jobs make insufficient income to live locally given the local cost of living.

In Fairfax County on average:

A family of four with two children would need over \$75,000 to meet their expenses.

Employment

The unemployment rate is 6.0% (Aug 2020, up from 2.5% in Aug 2019).

Housing

In 2019, the average monthly rent of a one-bedroom apartment was \$1,612, an increase of 34% since 2008.

Homelessness

In January 2020 there were 1,041 homeless people in Fairfax County; 31% of them were children under age 18.

Health

An estimated 95,768 or 8.5%, of county residents were without health insurance in 2019.

Child Care

The cost of full-time preschool child care in Fairfax County in 2020 ranged from \$14,000 to over \$19,500 per year, \$17,000 to nearly \$22,500 per year for an infant.

Food

In the 2019-2020 school year, Fairfax County Public Schools reported that 57,899 students (or 30.9% of enrollment) were eligible for free and reduced lunch.

¹LivingWage.mit.edu



Fairfax County

Community Action Advisory Board

12011 Government Center Parkway, 5th Floor
Fairfax, VA 22035-1102
703-324-7500



FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILY SERVICES

Learn more: [FairfaxCounty.gov](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) Search: **CAAB**



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Where a TTY number is not indicated, use 711/Virginia Relay. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request call 703-324-7500. 12/2020