PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

POPULATION, HOUSING, AND ECONOMIC SURVEY

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Prince George's County Planning Department

2022

Abstract

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The Population, Housing, and Economic Survey is compiled and written by the Prince George's County Planning Department and covers recent data on population, housing, social, and economic data for Prince George's County, Maryland. It includes additional historical and comparative data with other localities of the metropolitan Washington area. The report offers raw data with accompanying tables, graphs, or charts to show changes or trends in the data and how they are reflected in the County, all drawn from reliable and authoritative data sources. The overall purpose of the survey is to provide a convenient, organized summary and reference document for the general public, M-NCPPC, and local governments and to provide information to assist in planning and policymaking that would affect Prince George's County. The Prince George's County Planning Department expects to produce regular updates of the survey.

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14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
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The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is a bicounty agency, created by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1927. The Commission's geographic authority extends to the great majority of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties: the Maryland-Washington Regional District (M-NCPPC planning jurisdiction) comprises 1,001 square miles, while the Metropolitan District (parks) comprises 919 square miles, in the two counties.

The Commission has three major functions:

- The preparation, adoption, and, from time to time, amendment or extension of the General Plan for the physical development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District.
- The acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of a public park system.
- In Prince George's County only, the operation of the entire county public recreation program.

The Commission operates in each county through a Planning Board appointed by and responsible to the County government. All local plans, recommendations on zoning amendments, administration of subdivision regulations, and general administration of parks are responsibilities of the Planning Boards.

The Prince George's County Planning Department:

- Our mission is to help preserve, protect and manage the County's resources by providing the highest quality planning services and growth management guidance and by facilitating effective intergovernmental and citizen involvement through education and technical assistance.

- Our vision is to be a model planning department of responsive and respected staff who provide superior planning and technical services and work cooperatively with decision makers, citizens, and other agencies to continuously improve development quality and the environment and act as a catalyst for positive change.

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The County Council has three main responsibilities in the planning process: (1) setting policy, (2) plan approval, and (3) plan implementation. Applicable policies are incorporated into area plans, functional plans, and the general plan. The Council, after holding a hearing on the plan adopted by the Planning Board, may approve the plan as adopted, approve the plan with amendments based on the public record, or disapprove the plan and return it to the Planning Board for revision. Implementation is primarily through adoption of the annual Capital Improvement Program, the annual Budget, the water and sewer plan, and adoption of zoning map amendments.

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Table of Contents

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

Section 6

CHARTS

MAPS

TABLES

Section 1
General Demographic Data

Map 1. Prince George's County

Prince George's County, MD

Howard County

See the Prince George's County municipality map for the names and locations of the incorporated cities in the County.

Montgomery County

Anne Arundel County

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND-COLLEGE PARK

District of Columbia

PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Six Flags

Arlington County

Alexandria City

Upper Marlboro

Andrews AFB

Fairfax County

Calvert County

Legend

★ County Seat
🎓 Colleges and Universities
⚙ Six Flags
— Highways

Municipal Boundary
Beltsville Agricultural Center
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Military Installation

Service Layer Credits:
World Light Gray Canvas
Base: M-NCPPC, VITA,
Esri, HERE, Garmin,
USGS, EPA, NPS

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Miles

Source: M-NCPPC

Map 2. Municipalities in Prince George's County

ID	NAME	ID	NAME
1	BERWYN HEIGHTS	15	GLENARDEN
2	BLADENSBURG	16	GREENBELT
3	BOWIE	17	HYATTSVILLE
4	BRENTWOOD	18	LANDOVER HILLS
5	CAPITOL HEIGHTS	19	LAUREL
6	CHEVERLY	20	MORNINGSIDE
7	COLLEGE PARK	21	MOUNT RAINIER
8	COLMAR MANOR	22	NEW CARROLLTON
9	COTTAGE CITY	23	NORTH BRENTWOOD
10	DISTRICT HEIGHTS	24	RIVERDALE PARK
11	EAGLE HARBOR	25	SEAT PLEASANT
12	EDMONSTON	26	UNIVERSITY PARK
13	FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS	27	UPPER MARLBORO
14	FOREST HEIGHTS		

Source: M-NCPPC

Total Population, Historical Demographics, and Population Growth

A look at the total population of Prince George's County over the last several decades and within the most recent decade demonstrates clear changes (Table 1.1). Historically, Prince George's County was more rural, agrarian, and only hosted 15-16 percent of Maryland's population since the 1970s. Population growth had been steady, with substantial growth following both world wars, and larger increases began in the 1950s and 1960s due to the suburbanization of the metropolitan Washington, D.C. region, or metropolitan statistical area (MSA). The MSA encompasses the metropolitan area of a large city. Though its boundaries can be flexible, imprecise, and change over time, the MSA for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area includes the District of Columbia and its inner, suburban counties and independent cities, as well as some outlying counties (see Map 3). Population for Prince George's County increased significantly through the 1970s until about 2000, with another large, recent gain between 2010 and 2020. It was also in the last few decades of the twentieth century that the demographic composition of the County began to more greatly diversify.

Findings from the most recent census include:

- Maryland's total population grew by 403,672 between 2010 and 2020 for a 7 percent increase.
- Prince George's County grew by 103,781 between 2010 and 2020 for a 12 percent increase. The numerical increase in the County's population was the largest gain of any county in Maryland in the 2020 Census.
- Consistent with recent decades, Prince George's continues to make up about 15 percent of the state's total population.
- Prince George's County makes up about 15 percent of the population share of the Washington MSA.
- Prince George's County remains the second most populous county in the state, following Montgomery County.

Table 1.1 Prince George's County Total Population

CENSUS YEAR	MARYLAND POPULATION	PRINCE GEORGE'S POPULATION	% OF STATE POPULATION	INTERVAL CHANGE BETWEEN CENSUSES (*)		WASHINGTON MSA	PRINCE GEORGE'S %
				NUMERICAL	%		
1970*	3,922,391	660,567	16.84%	303,172	85.2%	/	/
1980	4,216,975	665,071	15.77%	4,504	0.51%	/	/
1990	4,780,753	729,268	15.25%	63,482	9.55%	/	/
2000	5,296,486	801,515	15.13%	72,962	10.01%	/	/
2010	5,573,552	863,420	15.49%	61,905	7.72%	5,636,232	15.32%
2020	6,177,224	967,201	15.66%	103,781	12%	6,385,162	15.15%

*1970 estimates based on change from 1960. Sources: The U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses.

Map 3. The Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (2020)

Source: M-NCPPC

Chart 1.A Population Growth in Prince George's County, 1970-2020
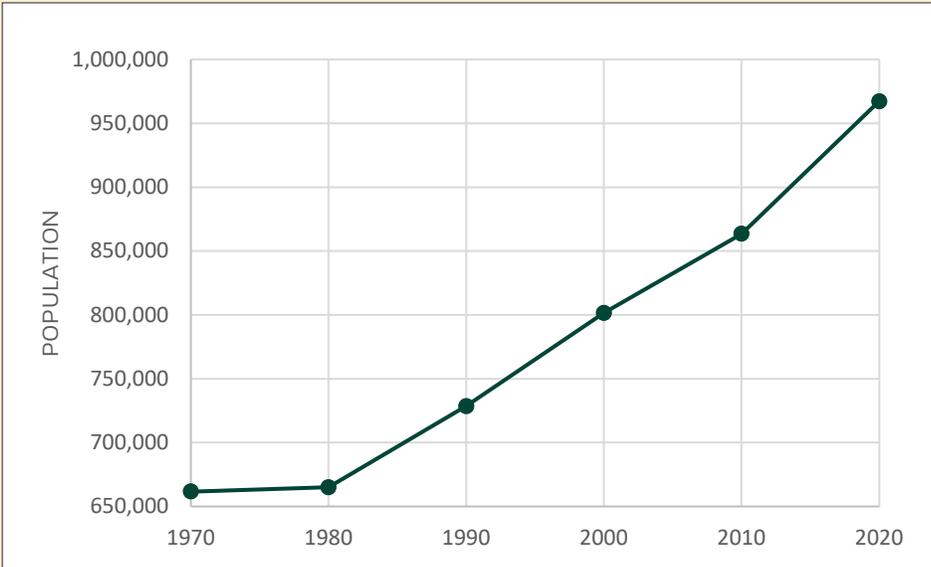
Incorporated Areas and Population

This table summarizes the population and population change of the legally incorporated areas of Prince George's County, its cities and towns. Numerous other areas, commonly called "towns" or "communities" (e.g. Beltsville, Largo) are not legally incorporated and are therefore not reflected in this classification of the population.

- As of 2020, Bowie is the largest city in the County (population 58,329) and Eagle Harbor (population 67) is the smallest.
- Bowie's population makes up roughly 23 percent of the County's municipalized population.
- There was no change from 2010 in the rank of cities by population, though there were some shifts in the ranking of towns' populations, some of which are larger than cities.
- Not many towns' populations declined, though Morningside experienced the greatest population loss, dropping from 2,015 in 2010 to 1,240 in 2020, a decline of 775. It also had the largest percent loss at -38.46 percent.
- Among the cities, Laurel had the greatest numerical population growth from 2010, at 4,945. Hyattsville experienced the largest percent gain at over 20 percent.
- Of the towns, Landover Hills had the greatest numerical gain between 2010 and 2020 at 2,920. Brentwood, however, had the greatest percent gain at over 25 percent.
- The municipalized, or urbanized, population of the County, is slightly above 26 percent.

Table 1.2 Incorporated Areas and Population of Prince George's County

	2010 POPULATION	PERCENT MUNICIPAL POPULATION	2020 POPULATION	PERCENT MUNICIPAL POPULATION	NUMERICAL CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
City						
Bowie	54,727	23.08%	58,329	22.48%	3,602	-0.60%
College Park	30,413	12.83%	34,740	13.39%	4,327	0.56%
District Heights	5,837	2.46%	5,959	2.30%	122	-0.16%
Glenarden	6,000	2.53%	6,402	2.47%	402	-0.06%
Greenbelt	23,068	9.73%	24,921	9.61%	1,853	-0.12%
Hyattsville	17,557	7.40%	21,187	8.17%	3,630	0.76%
Laurel	25,115	10.59%	30,060	11.59%	4,945	0.99%
Mount Rainier	8,080	3.41%	8,333	3.21%	253	-0.20%
New Carrollton	12,135	5.12%	13,715	5.29%	1,580	0.17%
Seat Pleasant	4,542	1.92%	4,522	1.74%	-20	-0.17%
Town						
Berwyn Heights	3,123	1.32%	3,345	1.29%	222	-0.03%
Bladensburg	9,148	3.86%	9,657	3.72%	509	-0.14%
Brentwood	3,046	1.28%	3,828	1.48%	782	0.19%
Capitol Heights	4,337	1.83%	4,050	1.56%	-287	-0.27%
Cheverly	6,173	2.60%	6,170	2.38%	-3	-0.23%
Colmar Manor	1,404	0.59%	1,588	0.61%	184	0.02%
Cottage City	1,305	0.55%	1,335	0.51%	30	-0.04%
Eagle Harbor	63	0.03%	67	0.03%	4	0.00%
Edmonston	1,445	0.61%	1,617	0.62%	172	0.01%
Fairmount Heights	1,494	0.63%	1,528	0.59%	34	-0.04%
Forest Heights	2,447	1.03%	2,658	1.02%	211	-0.01%
Landover Hills	1,687	0.71%	1,815	0.70%	128	-0.01%
Morningside	2,015	0.85%	1,240	0.48%	-775	-0.37%
North Brentwood	517	0.22%	593	0.23%	76	0.01%
Riverdale Park	6,956	2.93%	7,351	2.83%	395	-0.10%
University Park	2,548	1.07%	2,454	0.95%	-94	-0.13%
Upper Marlboro	631	0.27%	652	0.25%	21	-0.01%
MUNICIPAL TOTAL	**237,118**	**27.46%**	**259,451**	**26.82%**	**259,451**	
County Total	**863,420**		**967,201**			

Sources: The U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Decennial Censuses.

Vital Statistics

Vital statistics are collected by governments and report natural changes to local populations such as births and deaths, and are tracked through public records, and can be general indicators to measure population growth or decline. Natural increase or births minus deaths, shows population change aside from migration.

Table 1.3 Vital Statistics for Prince George's County

	BIRTHS	DEATHS	NATURAL INCREASE
2010	3,019	1,296	1,723
2011	12,137	5,162	6,975
2012	12,014	4,986	7,028
2013	11,948	5,278	6,670
2014	12,054	5,226	6,828
2015	12,496	5,611	6,885
2016	12,289	5,823	6,466
2017	12,309	6,572	5,737
2018	12,385	6,426	5,959
2019	11,971	6,889	5,082
2020	11,802	7,791	4,011
2010 to 2020	124,424	61,060	63,364

*Data for 2010 from 4/1/10 to 7/1/10. Data from 2010 to 2020 from 4/1/10 to 7/1/20.
Source: State of Maryland, Department of Planning.

Chart 1.B Births, Deaths, and Natural Increase in Prince George's County, 2010-2020
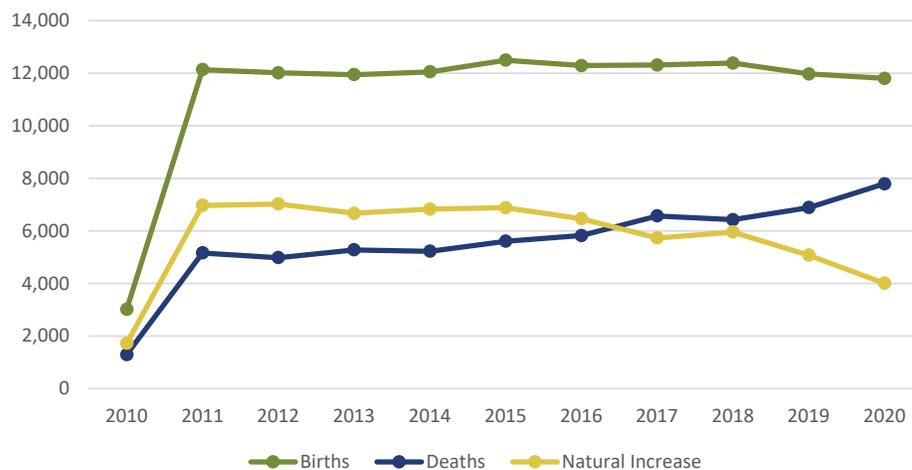
Migration

Movement into and within Prince George's County shows little change overall, despite the diverse make-up of the local population.

- Migration within Prince George's County declined from 9.2 percent in 2010 to 7.4 percent in 2020.
- There was only a slight increase of movement into the County from another Maryland county, rising from 2.2 percent in 2010 to 2.3 percent in 2020.
- Movement into Prince George's County from a state outside of Maryland also declined from 3.9 percent in 2010 to 3.4 percent in 2020.
- International migration into the County remained consistent throughout the decade at 0.8 percent.

Table 1.4 Migration in Prince George's County

YEAR	POPULATION OVER 1 YEAR OF AGE	MOVED WITHIN THE COUNTY (%)	MOVED FROM DIFFERENT COUNTY IN MARYLAND (%)	MOVED FROM OTHER STATE (%)	MOVED FROM ABROAD (%)
2010	843,085	9.2	2.2	3.9	0.8
2015	881,765	8.5	2.1	3.4	0.8
2020	899,845	7.4	2.3	3.4	0.8

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Population Density

Population density is based on the land area of Prince George's County (Table 1.5). The County overall is not particularly dense, which is likely due to large portions being rural or exurban in nature. The greatest change in population density occurred between 2010 and 2020, increasing from about 1,789 people per square mile to about 2,004 people per square mile in 2020. The increase is due to population growth and home development. Population density, though it measures a rough average of person per given land unit, can help measure the supply of land for commercial and residential development and how land is utilized. It is also a rough indicator of social well-being, public health, and resource supply and demand, though the effects often vary with the socioeconomic characteristics of the area(s) in question (Weinstein and Pillai 2016: 83-84). (See Appendix A1-Section 1-Population Density.)

Table 1.5 Prince George's Population Density

YEAR	POPULATION	LAND AREA (SQ. MI.)	DENSITY
1990	729,268	487.01	1,497.4
2000	801,515	487.01	1,645.8
2010	863,420	487.01	1,772.9
2020	967,201	487.01	1,986.0

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses

Population Projections

These data offer a comparison of possible scenarios for future population growth in the County, projected to 2050, based on calculations from the Prince George's County Planning Department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Planning Department used three of the standard projection methods—the linear, geometric, and exponential methods. These are among the most effective methods of estimation and, verified by past projections from the U.S. Census Bureau records and demographic studies, provide "the most realistic picture of how populations actually change" (Weinstein and Pillai 2016: 249). The rate of growth for the population between 2010 and 2020 was moderate, at slightly above 1 percent annually. (See Appendix A1-Section 1-Population Projections.)

Table 1.6 Population Projections for Prince George's County

PROJECTION METHOD	LINEAR	GEOMETRIC	EXPONENTIAL
Base Year (2010 Census)	863,420	863,420	863,420
Launch Year (2020 Census)	967,201	967,201	967,201
2030	1,070,982	1,096,483	1,084,962
2040	1,174,763	1,235,640	1,216,216
2050	1,278,544	1,392,457	1,363,330
Rate of Growth	1.2%	1.2%	1.14%

Source: Prince George's County Planning Department.

Chart 1.C Projected Population of Prince George's County
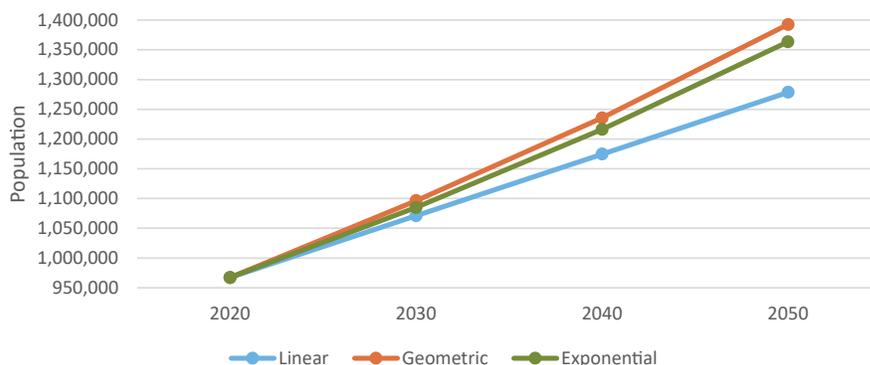
Section 2

Population Components and Dynamics: Sex, Age, Race, Ethnicity

Age Grades and Trends

An examination of the structure of age groups in Prince George's County shows significant changes within the last decade.

- Since 2010, children under 18 have consistently made up slightly more than one-fifth of the County's population, with 22.3 percent in 2020, though their numbers have dropped since 2010.

- The number of Prince George's County residents 19 and under has declined; the proportion of those aged 20-34 has shown a slight drop; those aged 35-54 has declined; and the number of residents aged 55 and older has grown since 2010.

- Growth in the senior population (over 65) is also evident. Where they comprised 8.9 percent of the County's population in 2010, this cohort increased to 13.3 percent in 2020. This gain is reflected in the old-age dependency ratio, which measures the number of older people (over 65) who tend not to be actively working, against the economically active population (age 15-64). This measurement increased from 13.4 percent in 2010 to 20.7 percent in 2020. This is an important indicator to keep track of in terms of planning for housing, transportation, and health care services.

- The total age-dependency ratio in the County, which measures dependents against the economically active population (i.e., children under 18 and adults over 64, or those generally not active in the labor force), has increased from 50.5 percent in 2010 to 55.3 percent in 2020, signaling greater financial and economic pressure on the working population, taxpayers, and the resources, services, and economic activity that they fund and provide. This pressure is also tied to aging populations as well as a decline in labor force participation. (See Table 5.11.)

- Slight declines in the population of children under 18 since 2010 have also resulted in a declining child-dependency ratio, indicating the ratio of children's dependence on the economically active population.

- The age-dependency cohort combines the population under 18 with the cohort above 65 to provide an indication of the population dependent on the working and economically active cohort. In Prince George's County, the largest driver of this measurement is the growing senior population, with the ratio increasing from 33.5 percent in 2010 to 35.6 percent in 2020.

- The median age in Prince George's County rose from 34.6 in 2010 to 37.5 in 2020. This suggests a number of demographic factors, such as an aging population, but also declining fertility rates, a rising life expectancy, the stability and mobility of the local population, and a confirmation that the number of older residents in the County has increased. (See Appendix A1-Section 2-Dependency Ratios.)

Chart 2.A Aging Trends in Prince George's County, 2010-2020

Legend: ■ Senior Pop (65+) ● Median Age
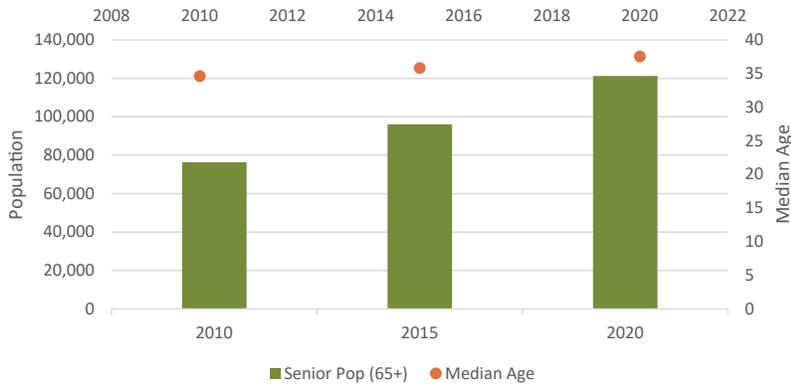
Table 2.1 Age Grades in Prince George's County

COHORT	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%	CHANGE 2010-2015	% CHANGE	CHANGE 2015-2020	% CHANGE	CHANGE 2010-2020	% CHANGE 2010-2020
Under 5	59,498	7%	59,748	6.7%	59,729	6.6%	250	0.42%	-19	-0.03%	231	0.39%
5-14	112,959	13.3%	110,680	12.4%	111,310	12.3%	-2,279	-2.02%	630	0.57%	-1,649	-1.46%
15-19	68,833	8.1%	65,152	7%	58,491	6.4%	-3,681	-5.35%	-6,661	-10.22%	-10,342	-15.02%
20-34	190,417	22.3%	202,913	22.8%	194,181	21.3%	12,496	6.56%	-8,732	-4.30%	3,764	1.98%
35-54	254,925	29.8%	253,847	28.4%	247,663	27.2%	-1,078	-0.42%	-6,184	-2.44%	-7,262	-2.85%
55-64	91,703	10.7%	107,348	12%	117,969	13%	15,645	17.06%	10,621	9.89%	26,266	28.64%
65-84	69,808	8.2%	86,290	9.6%	108,824	12%	16,482	23.61%	22,534	26.11%	39,016	55.89%
85+	6,579	0.8%	9,838	1.1%	12,384	1.4%	3,259	49.54%	2,546	25.88%	5,805	88.24%
Total Population	854,722		892,816		910,551							

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Table 2.2 Additional Age Trends in Prince George's County

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Total Population	854,722		892,816		910,551	
Under 18	210,384	24.6%	203,801	22.8%	202,908	22.3%
18-24	96,584	11.3%	98,210	11%	87,884	9.7%
18+	644,338	75.4%	689,015	77.2%	707,643	77.7%
65+	76,387	8.9%	96,128	10.8%	121,208	13.3%
Median Age	34.6		35.8		37.5	
Age-Dependency Cohort	286,771	33.5%	299,929	33.6%	324,116	35.6%
Total Age-Dependency Ratio	50.5		50.6		55.3	
Old-Age Dependency Ratio	13.4		16.2		20.7	
Child Dependency Ratio	37.0		34.4		34.6	

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Sex Ratio

The sex ratio is the measurement of the number of males to females. The ratio has remained consistent in Prince George's County, with a fairly even split of males and females. These numbers are typical of the ratio in the United States. (See Appendix A1-Section 2-Sex Ratio.)

Table 2.3 Sex Ratio for Prince George's County

YEAR	TOTAL	MALE	%	FEMALE	%	SEX RATIO
2010	854,722	409,834	47.9%	444,888	52.1%	92.1
2015	892,816	429,603	48.1%	463,213	51.9%	92.7
2020	910,551	438,050	48.1%	472,501	51.9%	92.7

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Marital Status

Marital status in the County influences everything from potential demographic growth and change, births and deaths, migration, financial and economic stability and change, taxes, educational resources, and housing needs and demand. The status of households and families with children is examined in Table 3.2.

- Based on the population aged 15 years and older, a lower number of Prince George's County residents (39.5 percent in 2020) are married, while a relatively high percentage (over 40 percent), are unmarried and have never been married.
- The proportion of the unmarried population may partly reflect the large number of college students in the area, but the age cohort for the typical undergraduate's age (18-24) is not particularly high and has even declined (Table 2.4).
- The percentages of the married, widowed, and divorced population have not fluctuated substantially since 2010.

Table 2.4 Marital Status in Prince George's County

	2010	2015	2020
Population 15+			
Total	682,265	722,388	739,512
Male	321,955	342,656	350,964
Female	360,310	379,732	388,548
Married (%)			
Total	40.3%	38.5%	39.5%
Male	43.6%	41.5%	42.6%
Female	37.4%	35.8%	36.7%
Widowed (%)			
Total	5.1%	5%	5.2%
Male	2.2%	2.1%	2.2%
Female	7.7%	7.5%	7.9%
Divorced (%)			
Total	10.2%	10.5%	10.2%
Male	8%	8.5%	8%
Female	12.1%	12.3%	12.2%
Separated (%)			
Total	3.3%	3.1%	2.5%
Male	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%
Female	3.8%	3.4%	2.5%
Never Married (%)			
Total	41.1%	42.9%	42.6%
Male	43.4%	45.2%	44.8%
Female	39.1%	40.9%	40.6%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Race and Ethnicity

The diverse population within Prince George's County reflects the international ambience of the metropolitan region, our local and regional economy, and all of its economic sectors and influences the various needs of our residents based on demand for myriad goods and services. Data on race and ethnicity informs many planning decisions and reflects many social and economic indicators such as housing, health care, income, education, local politics, and a variety of economic data. The racial composition of Prince George's County (see Table 2.5; Chart 2.B, and Chart 2.C) has changed noticeably since 1980, and even within the last ten years, as demonstrated by the decennial Census between those years.

General Trends in Racial Composition

- In the 2010-2020 period, the White population declined by almost 25 percent. This was the only racial group to decline in both numbers and percentage in the 2020 numeration. Whites were 58.9 percent of Prince George's County's population in 1980.

- While the Black or African American population increased in number, its share of the County's population declined slightly between 2010 and 2020. The Black and African American population surpassed the White population by 1990 to become the largest racial group in Prince George's County and has remained so since.

- The American Indian and Alaska Native population in Prince George's County increased over four times from the 2010 population. This is not an anomaly, however, and is representative of a national trend in a growing number of respondents self-reporting as American Indian or Alaska Native— the highest level of growth for this group in decades, though some of them dispute the statistic as either an undercount or an overcount. A large number also report being multiracial due to the complex historical associations of indigenous people and other races. This has been one of the most controversial changes in the 2020 Census (Chavez and Kaur 2022).

- Asians have shown significant gains since 2010, and their numbers have increased greatly since 1980. However, Asians have only been roughly 4 percent of the population since 1990.

- Collectively, the share of non-White residents of one race (termed the "minority share" in demographics and excluding the multiracial and Hispanics) in Prince George's County has increased dramatically (see Chart 2.C). In 1980, the share of the non-White population was about 41 percent, rising to 79.5 percent in 2020.

- Immigration is creating more fluidity and ambiguity in terms of racial identification (Foner, Deaux, and Donato 2018; Zhou 2003), which creates challenges in assessing and accounting for racial and ethnic differences in our already highly diverse and international metropolitan region. It also suggests a number of factors to consider for future planning and how the County will develop policies and formulate programs and services to residential and business communities in the coming decades.

Table 2.5 Racial Composition of Prince George's County

	1980		1990		2000		2010		2020	
	POPULATION	%	POPULATION	%	POPULATION	%	POPULATION	%	POPULATION	%
RACE										
White	391,427	58.9%	314,616	43.1%	216,729	27%	196,257	22.7%	124,863	12.9%
Black and African American	247,860	37.3%	369,791	50.7%	502,550	62.7%	557,967	64.5%	578,703	59.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	31	0.005%	2,339	0.3%	2,795	0.3%	2,159	0.2%	8,935	0.9%
Asian	16,211	2.4%	27,859	3.8%	31,032	3.9%	35,794	4.1%	41,875	4.3%
Native Hawaiians Pacific Islander	287	0.04%	396	0.05%	447	0.06%	163	0.02%	546	0.06%
Other	9,255	1.4%	14,267	2%	27,078	3.4%	50,760	5.9%	139,685	14.4%
Two or More Races	/	/	/	/	20,884	2.6%	22,171	2.6%	72,594	7.5%
Total	665,071		729,268		801,515		863,420		967,201	
Minority Population Share (Non-White)	273,644	41.1%	414,652	56.9%	563,902	70.4%	669,014	74.7%	842,338	79.5%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses.

Chart 2.B Racial Group Composition of Prince George's County, 1980-2020*

*Additional groups such as American Indians and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are present in smaller numbers (<1%)

■ White ■ Black ■ Asian ■ "Other" Race ■ Two or More Races
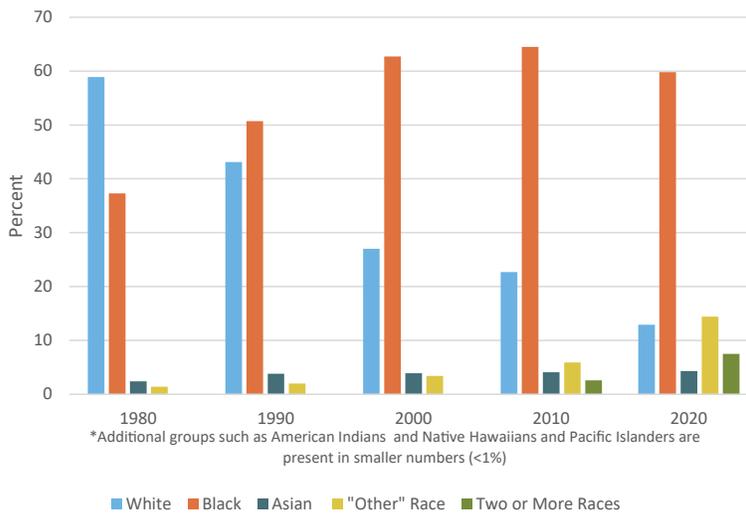
"Other" Race

- The "other" and general multiracial groups (representing all combinations) had increases of 175.2 percent and 227.4 percent, respectively, and both showed large numerical gains. This is consistent with a national trend for people increasingly identifying as "other" or multiracial on census forms.

- The "other" category reflects people not fitting precisely in a single census category, or those who do not identify with the categories as the census defines them, such as races and ethnicities that are not common in the United States. There are many possible reasons why one may select "other" or "other" in addition to another race.

- Examples of "other" include indigenous groups from other countries or immigrants from African or Caribbean countries who do not consider themselves to be "Black" or "African American," or they socially and culturally differentiate themselves from the "American Black" population (Guenther, Pendaz, and Makene 2011; Thornton, Taylor, and Chatters 2013; Vickman 2016).

- Another example of "other" includes those born in Asian countries who were adopted by non-Asian families, who experience ambiguity and uncertainty identifying which race they "belong" to or identify with (Change, Feldman, and Easley 2017; Ho 2016; Hoffman and Vallejo Peña 2013; Kim 2011; Park Nelson 2016).

- Historically, it has not been uncommon for Hispanics and Latinos to self-report as "other" on census response forms (Hitlin et. al 2017; Telles 2018). This fact undoubtedly affected numbers for the "other" category both locally and nationally.

Chart 2.C Minority Population Share of Prince George's County vs. Total Population, 1980-2020

Hispanics and Latinos

- Those of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, which are not counted as a "race" by the census, were 21.2 percent of the County's population in 2020. People of Hispanic or Latino origin can be of any race or even multiple races.

- In 1980, Hispanics or Latinos were only 2.2 percent of the County's population, and have made large increases according to each subsequent census.

- There is significant diversity within the local Hispanic and Latino population. In Prince George's County, most self-identify as Caucasian, with some as Black or African American, and smaller numbers of other races. Their nationalities reflect the entirety of Latin America. As of 2020, around 2.9 percent are of Mexican origin, representing 15.4 percent of Hispanics or Latinos in the County. Caribbean Hispanics or Latinos, largely Cuban, Puerto Rican, or Dominican, are about 9.6 percent of the Hispanic or Latino population and about 1.8 percent of the County's population. Smaller numbers of other Hispanic and Latino nationalities are also present.

- The largest regional representation of the Hispanic or Latino population in the County, however, is from Central America. Guatemalans come in at 2.45 percent of the County's total population, and 13 percent of the Hispanic or Latino population. The dominant nationality of all Hispanic or Latino groups, however, descends from El Salvador, comprising 8 percent of the County's total population and 42.53 percent of all Hispanics in the County.

Table 2.6 Population Change of Hispanics or Latinos in Prince George's County

YEAR	TOTAL POPULATION	TOTAL HISPANIC OR LATINO POPULATION	% PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POPULATION	% INCREASE IN HISPANIC OR LATINO POPULATION BETWEEN CENSUSES
1980	665,071	14,421	2.2%	/
1990	729,268	29,983	4.1%	107.91%
2000	801,420	57,057	7.1%	90.3%
2010	863,420	128,972	14.94%	126.04%
2020	967,201	205,463	21.2%	59.31%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses.

Chart 2.D Growth of Hispanic or Latino Population in Prince George's County, 1980-2020

Population, Housing, and Economic Survey
Prince George's County
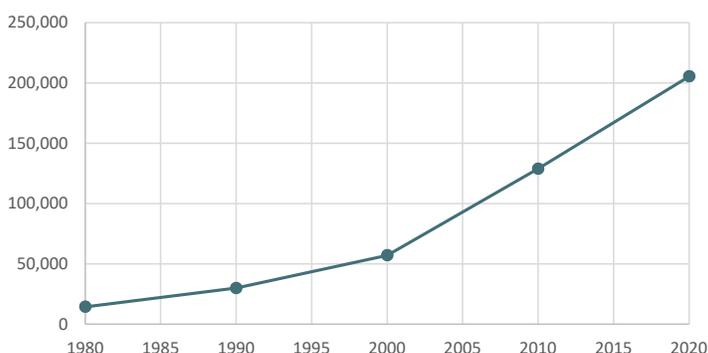
Chart 2.E Nationalities or Regional Origin as a Percentage of the Hispanic or Latino Population of Prince George's County (2020)

Legend:
- Mexican
- Salvadoran
- Other Hispanic
- Caribbean Hispanic
- Other Central American
- Guatemalan
- South American
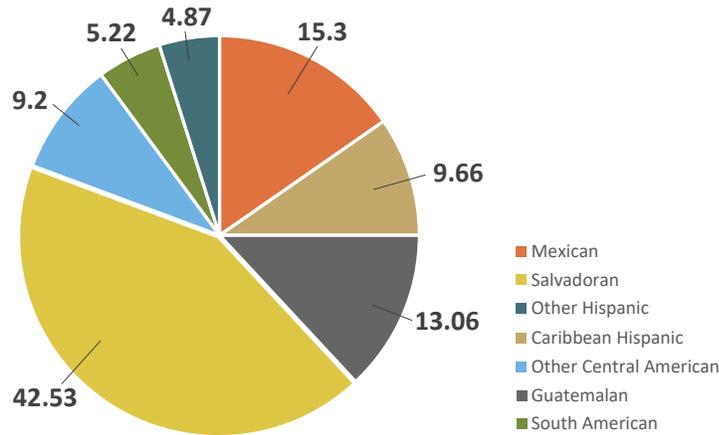
Table 2.7 Detailed Hispanic or Latino Population of Prince George's County (of Any Race)

	2010	2015	2020
Total Population	854,722	892,816	910,551
Total Hispanic Population	119,265	144,996	171,094
% County Population	13.95	16.24	18.79
Hispanic or Latino Population by Nationality or Regional Origin			
Mexican	22,734	22,569	26,407
% County Population	2.65%	2.53%	2.9%
% Hispanic Population	19.06%	15.57%	15.43%
Total Caribbean Hispanic	10,939	12,878	16,555
% County Population	1.3%	1.4%	1.82%
% Hispanic Population	9.17%	8.88%	9.66%
All Central American	70,954	97,656	110,849
% County Population	8.3%	11.43%	12.17%
% Hispanic Population	59.49%	67.35%	64.78%
Guatemalan	15,844	19,134	22,339
% County Population	1.85%	2.14%	2.45%
% Hispanic Population	13.28%	13.2%	13.06%
Salvadoran	46,667	67,076	72,761
% County Population	5.46%	7.51%	8%
% Hispanic Population	39.13%	46.26%	42.53%
Other Central American	8,443	11,446	15,749
% County Population	1%	1.28%	1.73%
% Hispanic Population	7.08%	7.89%	9.2%
South American Population	7,267	6,749	8,948
% County Population	0.85%	0.76%	0.98%
% Hispanic Population	6.09%	4.65%	5.22%
Other Hispanic or Latino	7,371	5,144	8,335
% County Population	0.86%	0.58%	0.92%
% Hispanic Population	6.18%	3.55%	4.87%

Note: Statistics on the Hispanic populations exhibited large MOE and large annual fluctuations.
Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Asians

- The Asian population of Prince George's (see Table 2.8, Chart 2.F) has been slightly above 4 percent since 2010.
- The three dominant Asian nationalities are Filipino (26.9 percent), Indian (25 percent), and Chinese (16 percent).
- Filipinos alone make up 1.1 percent of the County's total population.
- Other Asian nationalities as a collective group make up about 1.5 percent of Prince George's population and 36.6 percent of the Asian population. Other sizeable Asian nationalities include Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. This category's growth since 2010, compared to the most prominent Asian groups, suggests a diversifying Asian population.

Table 2.8 Asian Population of Prince George's County

	2010	2015	2020
Asian Population	34,795	38,124	38,755
% County Population	4.1%	4.3%	4.3%
ASIAN NATIONALITIES			
Indian Population	8,700	8,192	7,941
% County Population	1%	0.9%	0.9%
% Asian Population	25%	21.49%	20.49%
Chinese Population	5,221	6,757	6,200
% County Population	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%
% Asian Population	15%	17.72%	16%
Filipino Population	9,598	10,326	10,420
% County Population	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%
% Asian Population	27.58%	27.09%	26.89%
Other Asian	11,276	12,849	14,194
% County Population	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%
% Asian Population	32.41%	33.7%	36.62%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Chart 2.F Asian Nationalities as a Percentage of the Prince George's County Asian Population, 2010 vs. 2020
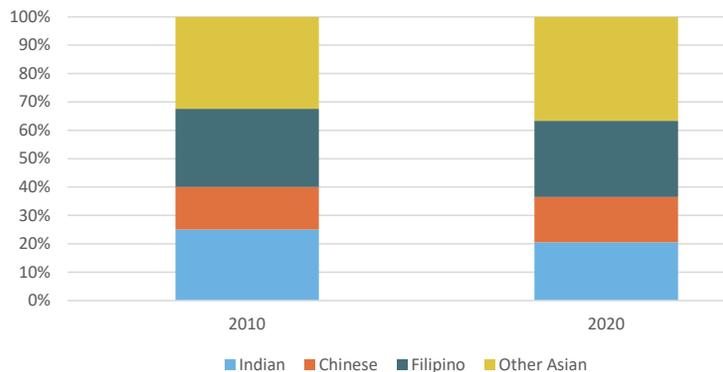
Section 3
Housing and Housing Demographics

Housing Occupancy

- The number of housing units within Prince George's County is well over 300,000, standing at 334,407 in 2020. The 2020 figures represent an increase of growth of 9,242 additional units since 2010.
- Housing occupancy has been well over 90 percent in the last decade, with 92.85 percent occupancy in 2010 and 94.39 percent in 2020, indicating a healthy housing market.
- Vacancies for both owners and renters have been low in that period, and have even declined, with vacancy totals being 7.15 percent in 2010 and 5.61 percent in 2020. Vacancy is especially low for homeowners, but rental vacancies dropped from 7.7 percent in 2010 to 4.7 percent in 2020. Such a trend can reflect changes in demand, income, employment, household types, and the condition of the local economy.
- Owner-occupied units make up the great majority of occupied housing units, though that rate has declined slightly from 64.27 percent in 2010 to 62.13 percent in 2020. The percentage of owner-occupied units is also defined as the home ownership rate.
- There is still a large number of renter-occupied units, with the percent share increasing from 35.73 percent in 2010 to 37.81 percent in 2020. The number of renter-occupied units is largely attributable to the younger population, new immigration, and the housing options near the several colleges in Prince George's County and nearby locales, particularly Washington, D.C., such as off-campus rental housing. Rental statistics are also an indicator tied to housing affordability.
- The average household size for owner-occupied units has shown little change, with an average of about 2.87 in 2010 and 2.9 people per owned home in 2020.
- The average size for renter-occupied homes has increased, from 2.58 in 2010 to 2.71 in 2020.

Table 3.1 Housing Occupancy in Prince George's County

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Total Housing Units	325,165		329,897		334,407	
Occupied Housing Units	301,906	92.85%	305,610	92.64%	315,634	94.39%
Vacant Housing Units	23,259	7.15%	24,287	7.36%	18,773	5.61%
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	1.8		1.4		1.4	
Renter Vacancy Rate	7.7		6.7		4.7	
Owner-Occupied Units	194,047	64.27%	189,462	61.99%	196,113	62.13%
Renter-Occupied Units	107,859	35.73%	116,148	38%	119,521	37.87%
Average Size of Owner-Occupied Units	2.87		2.92		2.9	
Average Size of Rental Units	2.58		2.76		2.71	

Note: Renter and Owner-Occupied units calculated based on occupied units, not total units.
Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Household Demographics: Families and Non-Families

The data and type of data available on households and their demographics in Prince George's County has changed markedly since 1980. Some statistics are newer and do not yet provide enough information to analyze a pattern or trend.

- The number of households in the County has increased gradually, from 224,789 in 1980, to 301,906 in 2010, to 315,634 in 2020.

- Average household size has shown little fluctuation in the 1980-2020 period, with a slight dip in the 1990s and 2000s, but stands at about 2.83 people per household in 2020.

- The number of family households has increased gradually since 1980, though the percentage of households considered to be family households has declined, from 73.67 percent in 1980 to 65.75 percent in 2010 to 64.58 percent in 2020. The average size of a family household since 1980 has hovered between 3 and 3.5 but increased from 3.37 in 2010 to 3.51 in 2020.

- There has been a substantial rise in the number and proportion of non-family households since 1980. These are households that are not classified as typical, nuclear families (e.g., a group of roommates). The number in 1980 was 59,178 (26.3 percent), 103,391 (34.25 percent) in 2010, and 111,796 (35.42 percent) in 2020. Since 2010, the average size of a non-family household has been about 1.3.

- Another major proportional decline in household demographics relates to married-couple households. In 1980, there were 126,171 married-couple households (56.1 percent). In 2010, that category numbered 119,822, but represented 39.69 percent of households. The number rose to 124,558 in 2020, but the percentage declined to 39.46 percent of households.

- Following with this trend, the number of married-couple households with children stood at 72,016 (32 percent) in 1980, with decline evident in the 1990s and 2000s. By 2010, with 54,004 (17.89 percent) married-couple households with children, and 50,026 (15.85 percent) in 2020, the percentage was less than half of what it was in 1980. The average size of a married-couple household, however, increased from 3.56 in 2010 to 3.68 in 2020.

- The number of male-headed households with children has been proportionally low, at under 3 percent since 2010. Female-headed household with children are much larger in number, though the percentage has declined from 10.6 percent in 2010 to 7.93 percent in 2020.

- Households with at least one person under the age of 18 declined from 39.5 percent in 1990 to 36.9 percent in 2010 to 31.8 percent in 2020.

- Conversely, the number of households with at least one person over age 65 has grown substantially, at 15.4 percent in 1980, with a significant rise to 27.2 percent by 2010, followed with a sharp increase to 38.4 percent in 2020. This can reflect the age of the householder or those over 65 living in multigenerational homes.

- The number of households with the householder living alone has also increased steadily since 1990 (21.6 percent), rising to 27.9 percent in 2010 and to 29.4 percent in 2020. In other words, nearly 3 in 10 of all households in the County house only a single person.

Chart 3.A Household Demographics of Selected Household Types in Prince George's County, 1980-2020
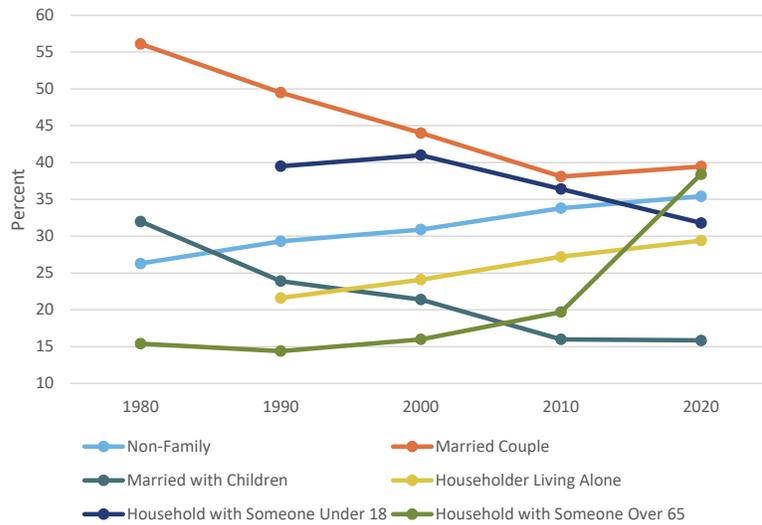
Table 3.2 Household Demographics: Families and Non-Families in Prince George's County

	1980	%	1990	%	2000	%	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Total Households	224,789	/	258,011	/	286,610	/	301,906	/	305,610	/	315,634	/
Average HH Size	2.89	/	2.76	/	2.74	/	2.76	/	2.86	/	2.83	/
Total Family Households	165,611	73.67%	182,447	70.71%	199,066	69.46%	198,515	65.75%	201,936	66.08%	203,838	64.58%
Average Family Size	3.38	/	3.23	/	3.25	/	3.37	/	3.49	/	3.51	/
Non-Family Households	59,178	26.3%	75,564	29.3%	88,544	30.9%	103,391	34.25%	103,674	33.92%	111,796	35.42%
Avg Non-Fam HH Size	/	/	/	/	/	/	1.32	/	1.32	/	1.3	/
Unmarried Same-Sex HH	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0.4%	/	0.4%	/	/
Unmarried Opposite Sex HH	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	5.3%	/	5.8%	/	/
Cohabitating Couple HH	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	18,648	5.9%
Married Couple HH	126,171	56.1%	127,731	49.5%	126,012	44%	119,822	39.69%	119,543	39.12%	124,558	39.46%
Married Family Avg Size	/	/	/	/	/	/	3.56	/	3.66	/	3.68	/
Married Couple HH with Children	72,016	32%	61,714	23.9%	61,398	21.4%	54,004	17.89%	50,229	16.44%	50,026	15.85%
Male Householder, No Spouse	/	/	/	/	/	/	19,561	6.48%	20,527	6.72%	19,953	6.32%
Male HH Avg HH Size	/	/	/	/	/	/	3.64	/	3.87	/	3.74	/
Male Householder, No Spouse, with Children	/	/	/	/	/	/	8,948	2.96%	9,147	2.99%	8,669	2.75%
Female Householder, No Spouse	/	/	/	/	/	/	59,132	19.59%	61,866	20.24%	59,327	18.8%
Female HH, avg fam size	/	/	/	/	/	/	3.38	/	3.56	/	3.59	/
Female Householder, No Spouse, with Children	/	/	/	/	/	/	31,992	10.6%	30,237	9.89%	25,036	7.93%
Household with at least One person Under 18	/	/	102,021	39.5%	117,591	41%	/	36.9%	/	35%	/	31.8%
Household with at least One Person Over 65	34,728	15.4%	37,060	14.4%	45,972	16%	/	27.2%	/	33.2%	/	38.4%
Householder Living Alone	/	/	55,826	21.6%	117,591	24.1%	/	27.9%	/	28.1%	/	29.4%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Housing Value and Cost

Following data on housing occupancy (Table 3.1), related data on housing costs and value also reveal important metrics.

- While the majority of housing units in the County are owned, there was a slight decline in owner-occupied units, from 64.4 percent in 2010 to 62.1 percent in 2020.
- Of those units, the number of owner-occupied units without a mortgage rose from 14.3 percent in 2010 to 19.5 percent in 2020.
- In the 2010-2020 period, the median value of owned homes also declined, from $327,600 to $319,600.
- Renter-occupied units in the 2010-2020 period also increased slightly, from 35.7 percent to 37.9 percent.
- The median monthly gross rent in the County also increased, from $1,140 in 2010 to $1,494 in 2020.
- Rental cost has a substantial impact on renting households, with gross rent costing more than 30 percent of household income for about 50 percent of those households in the 2010-2020 period.

Table 3.3 Housing Value and Costs in Prince George's County

	2010	%	2020	%
Total Occupied Housing Units	301,906		315,634	
Owner-Occupied Units	194,047	64.3%	196,113	62.1%
Units with a Mortgage	166,285	85.7%	157,898	80.5%
Units without a Mortgage	27,762	14.3%	38,215	19.5%
Median Value of Owned Occupied Units ($)	$327,600		$319,600	
Housing Cost as a Percentage of Household Income (30% or more) for Homes with a Mortgage		46.9%		31.8%
Total Renter-Occupied Units	107,859	35.7%	119,521	37.9%
Occupied Unit Paying Rent	105,425	97.7%	116,986	97.9%
Median Rent ($)	$1,140		$1,494	
Gross Rent as 30% or more of Household Income (Rental Households)	51,290	49.1%	58,422	50.7%

Note: Units with and without a mortgage calculated based on owner-occupied units.
Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Group Quarters Population

Group quarters are places where people live or stay in a group living arrangement that is owned or managed by an organization that provides housing and/or services for the residents. Group Quarters differ from typical household living arrangements because the people living in them are usually not related to one another. They may be temporary or permanent homes. Group quarters population remains significant in Prince George's County due to it hosting two state universities, senior populations in group facilities, and a local military presence.

- The total group quarters for the institutionalized population (prisons, jails, nursing homes) was 16,463 in 1990, rising a bit between each decennial census, with the group quarters population coming in at 19,683 in 2020.
- The population in nursing homes and other related facilities in the same period showed less fluctuation, with that population being 3,384 in 2020.
- Group quarters for noninstitutionalized facilities, particularly at local universities, jumped from 8,740 in 1990 to 12,228 in 2020.
- Military and "other" housing occupancy dropped considerably from 1990 to 2020.

Table 3.4 Group Quarters Population in Prince George's County

	1990	2000	2010	2020
Total Group Quarters Population	16,463	17,357	19,328	19,683
Institutionalized Population Total	/	4,897	4,283	4,273
Adult Correctional Facilities	1,181	1,283	1,156	681
Juvenile Correctional Facilities	/	326	188	100
Nursing Facilities, Related Hospitals	/	3,288	2,848	3,384
Other Institutionalized Facility	/	/	91	108
Non-Institutionalized Population	/	12,460	15,045	15,410
College/University Housing	8,740	9,507	13,394	12,228
Military Quarters	2,437	892	115	295
Other	4,105	2,061	1,536	2,887

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses.

Building Permits

- Data on building permits is a frequent general indicator of population and economic growth, as well as changes in local land use and development.
- There was a large increase in demand for building permits in the last decade. The total permits issued in 2010 numbered 707, with the total in 2020 numbering 2,271.
- The great majority of building permits were for single-family structures, averaging 1,456 annually throughout the decade.
- There was a general increase for multifamily housing as well, with buildings of five or more units predominating.
- The collective average for building permits was 1,718 per year for the 2010-2020 period.

Chart 3.B Building Permits for Prince George's County, 2010-2020
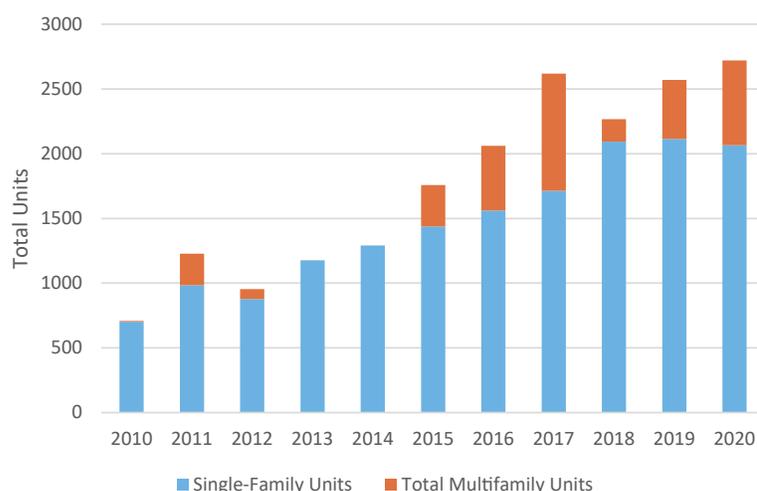
Table 3.5 Building Permits for Prince George's County

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	ANNUAL AVERAGE BY TYPE, 2010-2020	ANNUAL AVERAGE OF TOTAL PERMITS
Units in Single-Family Structures	702	984	878	1,176	1,292	1,438	1,560	1,714	2,093	2,113	2,066	1,456	
Units in Two-Unit Multifamily Structures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	2	1	
Units in Three- and Four-Unit Multifamily Structures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	1	
Units in Five-or-More Unit Multifamily Structures	5	243	75	0	0	319	500	904	168	446	650	301	
Total Multifamily Units	5	243	75	0	0	319	500	904	174	456	655	303	
Total	707	1,227	953	1,176	1,292	1,757	2,060	2,618	2,267	2,569	2,271		1,718

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development/State of the Cities Data Systems (SOCDS) Building Permits Database.

Section 4
Social and Cultural Data

Citizenship and Nativity

- The number and percent share of U.S.-born residents in Prince George's County has declined slightly in recent years, from 80.6 percent in 2010 to 77 percent in 2020.
- The number of County residents who are native Marylanders has increased slightly in that period to be roughly one-quarter of the population. Other Americans born in other states constitute about half of the County's population. Again, migration within the County and state is low (see Table 1.4).
- The County's foreign-born population has increased from 19.4 percent in 2010 to 23 percent in 2020. Of those, the percentage of the foreign-born who became naturalized citizens in that time period has increased from 36.4 percent to 43.5 percent, while the percentage of the foreign-born who are not U.S. citizens has declined from 63.6 percent to 56.5 percent.
- Comparatively, since 2015, a much higher number of the foreign-born in the County entered the U.S. before 2010 than after, suggesting that the great majority of immigrants are more recent arrivals.
- Between 2010 and 2020, the three leading, general regions of origin for the foreign-born have been Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Since 2010, well over 50 percent come from Latin America. Asian immigrants have declined a bit, though Africans have increased, from 23.4 percent in 2010 to 26.3 percent in 2020. Other regional origins are represented in much smaller amounts.

Chart 4.A Recent Trends in Nativity and Citizenship for Prince George's County, 2010-2020
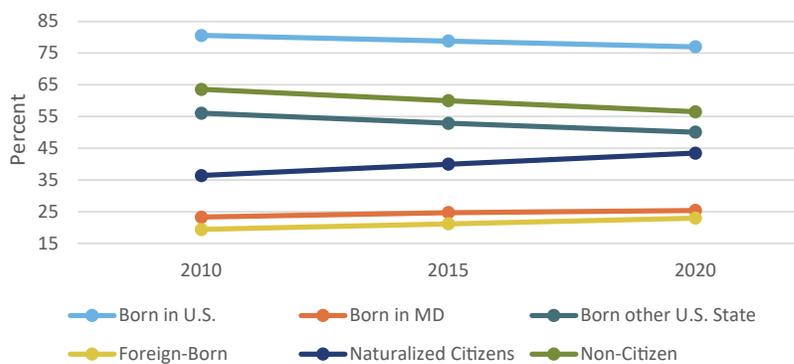
Table 4.1 Nativity and Citizenship Status of Prince George's County Population

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Total Population	854,722		892,816		910,551	
Born in U.S.	688,878	80.6%	703,303	78.8%	701,293	77%
Born in Maryland	199,250	23.3%	220,242	24.7%	231,370	25.4%
Born in other U.S. State	479,630	56.1%	472,382	52.9%	456,621	50.1%
Americans Born outside U.S.	9,998	0.01%	10,679	0.01%	13,302	0.01%
Foreign-Born	165,844	19.4%	189,513	21.2%	209,258	23%
Naturalized U.S. Citizen	60,334	36.4%	75,893	40%	90,935	43.5%
Not a U.S. Citizen	105,510	63.6%	113,620	60%	118,323	56.5%
Entered U.S. 2000 or Later	66,086	39.8%	/	/	/	/
Entered U.S. before 2000	99,758	60.2%	/	/	/	/
Entered U.S. 2010 or Later	/	/	20,453	10.8%	59,056	28.2%
Entered U.S. before 2010	/	/	169,060	89.2%	150,202	71.8%
Region of Birth for Foreign-Born						
Europe	5,753	3.5%	5,411	2.9%	5,019	2.4%
Asia	26,588	16%	29,931	15.8%	30,303	14.5%
Africa	38,889	23.4%	43,339	22.9%	55,084	26.3%
Oceania	138	0.1%	57	0	210	0.1%
Latin America	93,547	56.4%	110,067	58.1%	118,021	56.4%
North America	929	0.6%	708	0.4%	621	0.3%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Languages

Here we list language data by the top ten non-English languages spoken in Prince George's County for the number of speakers over the age of five. It does not account for speakers by household, place of birth, or citizenship status. It can represent languages spoken in addition to English or exclusive of English. The focus is on specific languages more so than language groups or families. The 5-Year ACS data for 2020 was not available for totals of languages spoken but, to provide a fuller picture, 5-Year ACS data is available for languages spoken at home (see Table 4.3).

- Between 2010 and 2020, the percentage of the population speaking English only has declined from 80.43 percent to 71.12 percent, though more and more people are bilingual.
- Besides English, Spanish dominates as the next most widely spoken language, and its percentage of speakers has risen from 10.46 percent in 2010 to 17.78 percent in 2020.
- Other languages with greater than 1 percent of Prince George's County residents as speakers include French, and, for 2020, West African languages such as Yoruba or Twi and East African languages such as Amharic and Somali each come in at over 1 percent.
- There has been some shuffling among which other languages are among the top ten spoken in the County. Several new languages have appeared in the top ten in recent years, and others have had noticeable declines from previous years.
- Similar to total number of speakers, English declined as the primary or only language spoken at home, from 80.4 percent in 2010 to 72.2 percent in 2020.
- Inversely, the number of homes speaking a language other than English rose from 19.6 percent in 2010 to 27.8 percent in 2020.
- Households claiming the ability to speak only English or speak it "very well" similarly declined from 91.3 percent in 2010 to 87.2 percent in 2020.

Table 4.2 Top Languages Spoken at Prince George's County Homes by Population 5 Years and Older

	2010 (+)	SPEAKERS	%	2015 (+)	SPEAKERS	%	2019 (*)	SPEAKERS	%
Population 5 Years or Older	795,224			833,068			849,953		
	Language								
	English only	639,588	80.43%	English only	645,890	77.53%	English only	604,461	71.12%
	Spanish	83,153	10.46%	Spanish	105,440	12.66%	Spanish	151,100	17.78%
	French	9,360	1.18%	French	11,920	1.43%	French	14,925	1.76%
	Tagalog	6,547		Tagalog	7,788		Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, related West African languages	14,873	1.75%
	Chinese	4,272		Chinese	5,812		Amharic, Somali	9,267	1.09%
	French Creole	3,357		French Creole	4,662		Tagalog	7,496	
	Vietnamese	2,876		Korean	2,809		Haitian	5,892	
	Hindi	2,370		Vietnamese	2,537		Chinese	5,852	
	Korean	2,285		Arabic	2,095		Swahili, other related East and Southern African Languages	5,414	
	German	1,678		Hindi	1,856		Hindi	2,569	
	Arabic	1,371		Urdu	1,636		Vietnamese	1,995	

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS). (+) 5-year ACS, (*) 1-Year ACS.

Table 4.3 Language Spoken at Home

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Population 5 and Over	795,224		833,068		850,822	
Speaks English only	639,360	80.4%	645,890	77.5%	614,495	72.2%
Speaks Language other than English	155,864	19.6%	187,178	22.5%	236,327	27.8%
Speaks English only or Speaks English "very well"	726,040	91.3%	750,861	90.1%	742,250	87.2%
Speaks English "less than very well"	69,184	8.7%	82,207	9.9%	108,572	12.8%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Educational Attainment

Many socioeconomic factors are directly related to educational attainment of the population and are reflective of the availability of jobs and the type(s) of industry or industrial growth, health outcomes, electoral results and preferences, income distribution, and general quality of life and social well-being in a given area. The levels of educational attainment in Prince George's County for the population over the age of 25 have not shown dramatic changes from 2010 to 2020, though there have been some significant smaller changes. Overall, there has been an increase in educational attainment throughout the County.

- The percentage of residents with less than a high school diploma has declined from 14.2 percent in 2010 to 12.8 percent in 2020.
- The percentage of those having only a high school diploma or equivalent also declined from 28.1 percent in 2010 to 25.3 percent in 2020.
- The percentage of the population with a bachelor's degree increased from 17.5 percent in 2010 to 19.2 percent in 2020.
- The percentage of the population with a graduate or professional degree also rose from 12.1 percent in 2010 to 15.2 percent 2020.
- The overall percentage of population 25 years old or over with a bachelor's degree or higher has been on the steady rise between 2010 and 2020.

Chart 4.B Educational Attainment in Prince George's County for Population 25 Years and Older
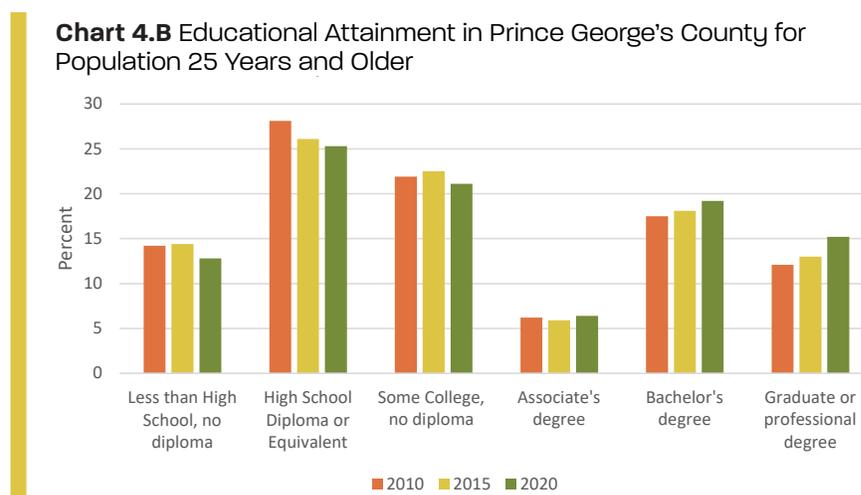
Table 4.4 Educational Attainment in Prince George's County (age 25 Years and Older)

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Population	547,564		590,874		619,759	
Less than High School, no diploma		14.2%		14.4%		12.8%
High School Diploma or Equivalent		28.1%		26.1%		25.3%
Some College, no diploma		21.9%		22.5%		21.1%
Associate's degree		6.2%		5.9%		6.4%
Bachelor's degree		17.5%		18.1%		19.2%
Graduate or professional degree		12.1%		13%		15.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher		29.6%		31.1%		34.4%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Computer and Internet Access

Detailed data on household computer and Internet access only goes back to 2015 and reflects technological connectivity, the nature of the local economy, and also socioeconomic status. Computer and Internet access will be an important social and economic indicator to monitor going into the future, as the economy becomes increasingly digital and remote work gains in popularity, and sometimes necessity.

- The number of households with one or more computer or similar device increased from 92.5 percent in 2015 to 95.3 percent in 2020.
- 83 percent of households had a smartphone in 2015, and 88.3 percent had at least one in 2020.
- While 7.5 percent of households in 2015 reported having no computer, that number declined to 4.7 percent in 2020.
- While 82.8 percent of households in 2015 had an Internet subscription, that number rose to 90 percent in 2020.

Table 4.5 Computer and Internet Access in Prince George's County Per Household

	2015*	%	2020+	%
Total Households	304,539		315,634	
Has 1 or More Computer or Device	281,745	92.5%	300,860	95.3%
Has Desktop or Laptop	254,126	83.4%	259,701	82.3%
Has Smartphone	252,869	83%	270,800	88.3%
Has Tablet or Portable Device	/	/	213,189	67.5%
Other device	31,254	10.3%	9,498	3%
No Computer in Household	22,794	7.5%	14,774	4.7%
Has Internet Subscription	252,254	82.8%	289,964	90%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS). (+) 5-year ACS, (*) 1-Year ACS.

Vehicle Access

Another feature indicative of socioeconomic status and economic trends is vehicle access and ownership. This will be an important indicator to track in the coming years as it relates to the changing economy for those who can and do work at home, and those who do not or cannot. Vehicle access and ownership affects transportation demand, commuting patterns, job and resource accessibility, economic growth, and social and economic mobility.

- In 2010, 9.3 percent of occupied housing units reported having no vehicle, while 36.7 percent had one vehicle, and 54 percent had two or more vehicles.
- The numbers changed little in 2020, with 9.2 percent having no vehicle, 36.3 percent having one vehicle, and 54.6 percent having two or more.

Table 4.6 Vehicle Availability in Prince George's County by Occupied Housing Units

	OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS OR HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO VEHICLES	%	HOUSEHOLDS WITH 1 VEHICLE	%	HOUSEHOLDS WITH 2 OR MORE VEHICLES	%
2010	301,906	27,999	9.3%	110,881	36.7%	163,026	54.0%
2015	305,610	28,707	9.4%	114,530	37.5%	162,373	53.1%
2020	315,634	29,030	9.2%	114,452	36.3%	172,152	54.6%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Commuting Patterns

Data on commuting patterns is compiled for residents 16 and over, representing the general cohort of the eligible working-age population. Commuting data influences changes and effects in many other areas such as the demand and supply for housing, transportation, technology, education, energy consumption, and jobs and industries.

- The great majority of commuters in Prince George's County travel to work via car, van, or truck, staying around 76 percent for the last decade.
- Of commuters, about 65 percent drive alone.
- Carpooling and use of public transportation both declined in the 2010-2020 period, though "other" methods, such as taxis or walking, have increased slightly.
- The number of individuals reporting to work from home increased from 2.7 percent in 2010 to 6.5 percent in 2020. There is reason to expect that this number will increase significantly in the coming years due to changes in technology and workforce demands.
- There has been little change in the location of where people report where they work. In 2020, 60.8 percent of County residents work within Maryland, up from 57.9 percent in 2010, and 42.2 percent work within Prince George's County, up from 39.6 percent in 2010. Those working outside the County has shown little change, and those working outside of Maryland, 39.2 percent in 2020, declined a bit from 42.1 percent in 2010. The proliferation and increasing popularity and availability of telecommuting will surely affect these statistics going into the future.
- The mean travel time of commuters has only shown a slight increase in the last decade, rising from about 35.5 minutes in 2010 to 37 minutes in 2020.

Table 4.7 Commuting Characteristics in Prince George's County

	2010	2015	2020
Population 16 years and older	442,963	458,607	475,260
Means of Transportation to Work (%)			
Car, Truck, Van	76.8%	77.1%	76.4%
Drove Alone	64.1%	65.3%	65.9%
Carpooled	12.6%	11.7%	10.4%
Public Transportation	17.4%	17.2%	13.1%
Work at Home	2.7%	2.6%	6.5%
Other (Taxi, Walk, Bike)	3.2%	3.2%	4.1%
Location of Work (%)			
Worked in State of Residence	57.9%	58.3%	60.8%
Worked in County of Residence	39.6%	38.8%	42.2%
Worked Outside County of Residence	18.3%	19.5%	18.2%
Worked Outside State of Residence	42.1%	41.7%	39.2%
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)	35.5	36.5	37

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Veterans

A significant population of veterans live in Prince George's County, which is attributable to the County's proximity to Washington, several military bases nearby, as well as the strong presence of the defense industry in the metropolitan area.

- The number of veterans in the County declined between 2010 and 2020. Of the population aged 18 and over, 10.1 percent in 2010 were veterans, and 7.5 percent in 2020.
- The great majority of veterans are men, at well over 80 percent. The percentage of female veterans has increased slightly, from 14 percent in 2010 to 16.4 percent in 2020.
- The participation of veterans in the labor force is high and has hovered around 84 percent for the last decade.
- Unemployment for veterans ticked up substantially in 2015 to 8.2 percent but fell substantially to 3.4 percent in 2020. As of 2020, roughly 4 percent of veterans are below the poverty line.
- The number of veterans with disabilities of any kind has also increased, rising from 17.3 percent in 2015 to 21.7 percent in 2020.

Table 4.8 Characteristics of Prince George's Veterans

	2010	2015	2020
Number of Veterans	64,735	59,015	53,192
Percent of population 18 years and older	10.1	8.6	7.5
Characteristics (%)			
Male	86%	85.1%	83.6%
Female	14%	14.9%	16.4%
Labor Force Participation Rate (16-64)	84.4%	84.6%	84.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	8.2%	3.4%
Below Poverty Level	/	4%	4.2%
Has Any Disability	/	17.3%	21.7%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Health Insurance Coverage

Health insurance coverage is another key socioeconomic indicator to follow in the coming years as the population ages and the economy undergoes further changes. Data on health insurance coverage can be very inconsistent from year to year and can be difficult to measure accurately. Much of the data and its quality depends highly on who is sampled and who responds to a survey in a given year, as well as constantly changing economic circumstances.

- Overall, the uninsured population in the County declined from 122,451 individuals in 2015 to 92,790 in 2020.
- The younger population (those under 18 or 19) has shown an increase in being uninsured, as has the older population (those over 65).
- A decline in the uninsured population is evident in the age range of 18 to 64, or the prime working-age population.

Table 4.9 Health Insurance Coverage in Prince George's County

	2015	%	2020	%
Civilian, Noninstitutionalized Population	886,093		903,474	
Uninsured Population	122,451		92,790	
Under 18 Uninsured		9.1%		/
Under 19 Uninsured		/		13.7%
Age 18-64 Uninsured		89%		/
Age 19-64 Uninsured		/		83.3%
Age 65+ Uninsured		1.9%		3.1%

Note: Some data collection seemed inconsistent. Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS).

Disability

Disability statistics are valuable for offering insight on planning needs and consideration regarding education, transportation, housing, job availability and accessibility, social services, and health care services.

- The number of individuals with a disability of any kind in the County increased from 8.7 percent in 2015 to 9.7 percent in 2020.
- Males have shown a slight increase in this period, (8.1 percent to 8.7 percent) though females represent a higher percentage of those with disabilities, which also rose from 9.4 percent in 2015 to 10.6 percent in 2020.
- The great majority of the disabled in the County are older residents (those over 65), but those over 75 represent the greatest proportion of disabled individuals at well over 40 percent of the entire cohort.
- Ambulatory difficulties make up the most common type of disability for persons with a disability at over 5 percent.

Table 4.10 Disability in Prince George's County

	2015	2020
Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population	886,093	903,474
With Disability Status (%)	8.7%	9.7%
Male (%)	8.1%	8.7%
Female (%)	9.4%	10.6%
Age (%)		
Under 5	0.7%	0.2%
5-17	4.2%	4.1%
18-34	4%	5.2%
35-64	9.1%	9.4%
65-74	21.7%	21.8%
75 and Over	47.4%	44.6%
Type of Disability (%)		
Hearing difficulty	1.7%	1.9%
Visual difficulty	1.5%	1.7%
Cognitive difficulty	3.5%	3.6%
Ambulatory difficulty	5.2%	5.6%
Self-care difficulty	1.8%	2%
Independent living difficulty	4%	4.4%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS).

Section 5

Economic and Socioeconomic Data

Income

This section examines three major categories of income in Prince George's County—the household, family, and individual levels.

Household Income

- Overall, the household income rose in Prince George's County between 2010 and 2020.
- The median household income rose from $71,260 in 2010 to $86,994 in 2020, showing a gain of $15,734, or an increase of 22.08 percent.
- The mean household income was $85,275 in 2010 and rose to $105,736 in 2020, for a $20,461 gain, or a 24.87 percent increase.
- Of the various income brackets, only households with a median income of $100,00 or more showed an increase in household income between 2010 and 2020. Those with a median household income under $100,000 dropped or showed no substantial gains since 2020 (see Chart 5.A).
- Between 2010 and 2020, mean and median household income increased, though mean household income outpaced median household income (see Chart 5.B). This suggests that the income data is skewed toward higher earners, weighing more heavily on the County's overall median and mean.
- When median household incomes are examined proportionally by income bracket, only households with a median income of $100,000 or greater occupied a larger share of households in the County, rising from 31.9 percent in 2010 to 42.8 percent in 2020. Chart 5.D shows that the proportion of households in the highest income bracket has been on the rise and so has been the percentage in the next highest income bracket, although the latter was not as significant as the former. The percentage of households in the lowest income bracket showed a trend in decline. The percentage of households in the remaining $35,000 to $99,000 bracket decreased as well.
- Another simple method of calculating and conceptualizing "high" and "low" income comes from the Pew Research Center, a major think tank. This method takes the median household income, calculates two-thirds of its value to determine the median lower end of the spectrum, then doubles the median for the higher end to provide a rough idea of the thresholds for low, medium, and high income at the household level (Horowitz et al. 2020). This method showed growth for each year, though, perhaps most telling is the statistical range between the high and low income, where there was a $95,488 difference between the higher- and lower-earning households in 2010. For 2020, the range was a $116,572 gap. (See Appendix A1-Section 5-Pew Income Threshold.)

Table 5.1 Household Income in Prince George's County

	2010		2015		2020		NUMERICAL CHANGE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020	PERCENT CHANGE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020
	HOUSEHOLD	%	HOUSEHOLD	%	HOUSEHOLD	%		
Number of Households	**301,906**		**305,610**		**315,634**			
< $15,000		6.2%		6.5%		6.2%		
$15,000-34,999		12.6%		12.7%		10.2%		
$35,000-49,999		13.1%		11.7%		9%		
$50,000-74,999		20.7%		19.5%		17.1%		
$75,000-99,999		15.6%		14.8%		14.6%		
$100,000-149,999		18.8%		19.3%		21%		
$150,000-199,999		8%		8.9%		10.9%		
$200,000 +		5.1%		6.6%		10.9%		
Median Household Income	$71,260		$74,260		$86,994		$15,734	22.08%
Mean Household Income	$85,275		$90,268		$105,736		$20,461	24.87%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Table 5.2 Low, Medium, and High Household Income Thresholds in Prince George's County

	MEDIAN HOUOSEHOLD INCOME ($)	LOW	HIGH	RANGE
2010	71,260	47,032	142,520	95,488
2015	74,260	49,012	148,520	99,508
2020	86,994	57,416	173,988	116,572

Source: 5-Year ACS data, with ranges calculated according to Pew methodology.

Chart 5.A Median Household Income in Prince George's County by Percentage of Households, 2010-2020
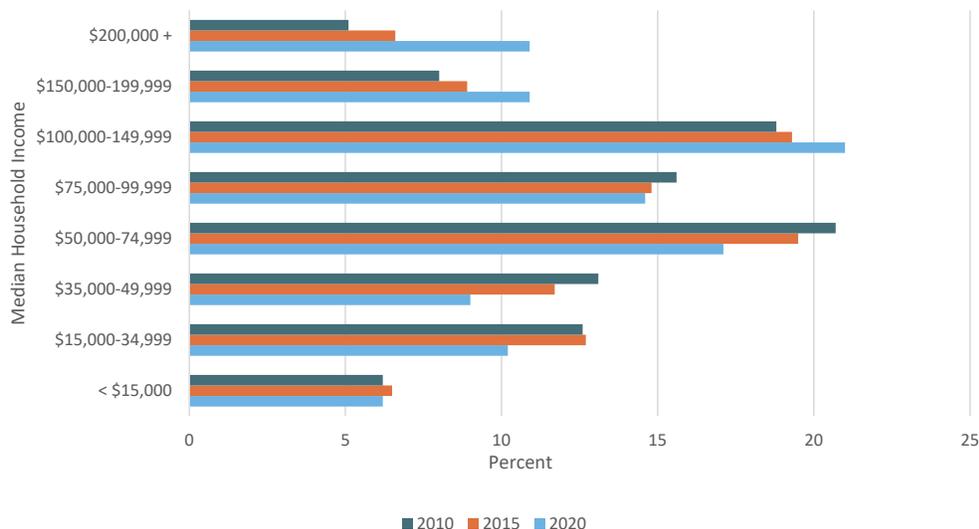
Chart 5.B Median and Mean Household Income

Income (thousands)

Legend: ■ Mean Income ■ Median Income
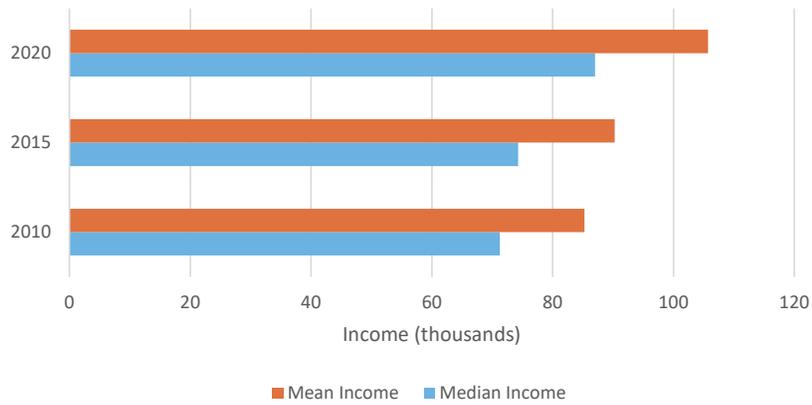
Chart 5.C Comparative Proportions of Median Household Incomes in Prince George's County, 2010-2020

Year	Under $35K	$35K-$99K	$100K-199K	200K+
2020	16.4	40.7	31.9	10.9
2015	19.2	46	28.2	6.6
2010	18.8	49.4	26.8	5.1

Pecent of Households by Median Income

Legend: ■ Under $35K ■ $35K-$99K ■ $100K-199K ■ 200K+
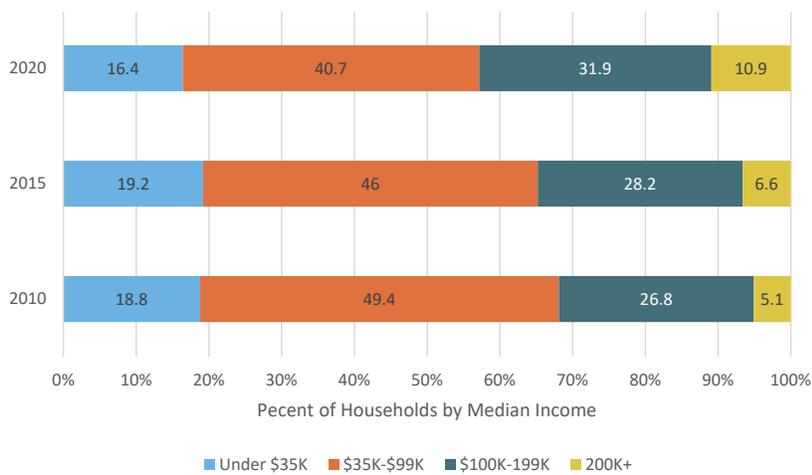
Family Income

- Overall, family incomes also showed gains in Prince George's County between 2010 and 2020.
- The median family income rose from $82,580 in 2010 to $101,564 in 2020 for a dollar gain of $18,984, or 22.99 percent.
- The mean family income rose from $95,790 in 2010 to $120,146 in 2020, showing a dollar gain of $24,356, or 25.43 percent.
- Family income demonstrated a similar pattern to household income, where only families earning $100,000 or more increased in their proportion of total households in the County, whereas those earning under $100,000 declined proportionally. Similarly, the overall data is skewed toward higher earning families making the highest (or only) gains.

Table 5.3 Family Income in Prince George's County

	2010		2015		2020		NUMERICAL CHANGE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020	PERCENT CHANGE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020
	FAMILIES	%	FAMILIES	%	FAMILIES	%		
	198,515		**201,936**		**203,838**			
< $15,000		3.9		4.6		3.4		
$15,000-34,999		10.5		10.7		8.1		
$35,000-49,000		10.9		10.3		8		
$50,000-74,999		19.2		17.8		15.3		
$75,000-99,999		16.5		15		14.3		
$100,000-149,999		22.2		21.6		23.3		
$150,000-199,999		10.2		11.4		13.1		
$200,000 +		6.7		8.6		14.5		
Median Family Income ($)	82,580		85,445		101,564		$18,984	22.99%
Mean Family Income ($)	95,790		101,016		120,146		$24,356	25.43%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Individual Income

- For the most general individual income statistics, per capita income rose from $31,215 in 2010 to $38,502 in 2020. Median earnings also rose from $37,622 to $42,705. The median is the statistic separating the lower half of a value from the higher half. In other words, in 2020, half the population of Prince George's County made an income higher than $38,502, and half made less.

- Median earnings for all male and female workers, regardless of their working status has been similar, showing gains for females, with males having somewhat higher median earnings in 2020.

- Earnings for full-time, year-round employees paint a slightly different picture, with males and females being roughly even in 2010. By 2015, female earners in this category surpassed males. For 2020, median earnings for females in this employment category came in at $58,495, with males at $54,438.

- Wage ratio also demonstrates this difference, measuring female earnings as a ratio to male earnings. By 2020, the ratio was 1.07, meaning female workers in this category earned $1.07 for a every dollar earned by a male worker, creating a negative "pay gap." (See Appendix A1-Section 5-Earnings Ratio.)

- Mean, full-time earnings for all workers of any status gained from $56,897 in 2010 to $68,494 in 2020.

- Mean earnings for both male and female workers showed gains but, once again, females surpassed males for the 2020 figures, with mean, full-time female earnings coming in at $68,743 to $68,260 for males.

- All earnings are reflective of the industry of employment for the given worker and the gendered division of employment in various industries.

Table 5.4 Individual Income in Prince George's County

	2010	2015	2020
Per Capita Income ($)	31,215	32,639	38,502
Median Earnings ($)	37,622	37,843	42,705
Median Earnings, all Male Workers ($)	37,959	37,829	43,458
Median Earnings, all Female Workers ($)	37,326	37,859	42,069
Median Earnings for Males, Full-Time, Year-Round Workers (FTYR) ($)	49,471	50,418	54,438
Median Earnings for Female, Full-Time, Year-Round Workers (FTYR) ($)	49,478	52,037	58,495
Earnings Ratio (F/M) ($)	1	1.03	1.07
Mean, Full-Time Earnings ($)	56,897	60,378	68,494
Mean, Full-Time Earnings for Males ($)	58,181	60,949	68,260
Mean, Full-Time Earnings for Females ($)	55,627	59,803	68,743

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Chart 5.D Individual Income Trends in Prince George's County, 2010-2020

Legend: Per Capita, Median Earnings, Male Median Earnings, Female Median Earnings, Male, FTYR, Female, FTYR
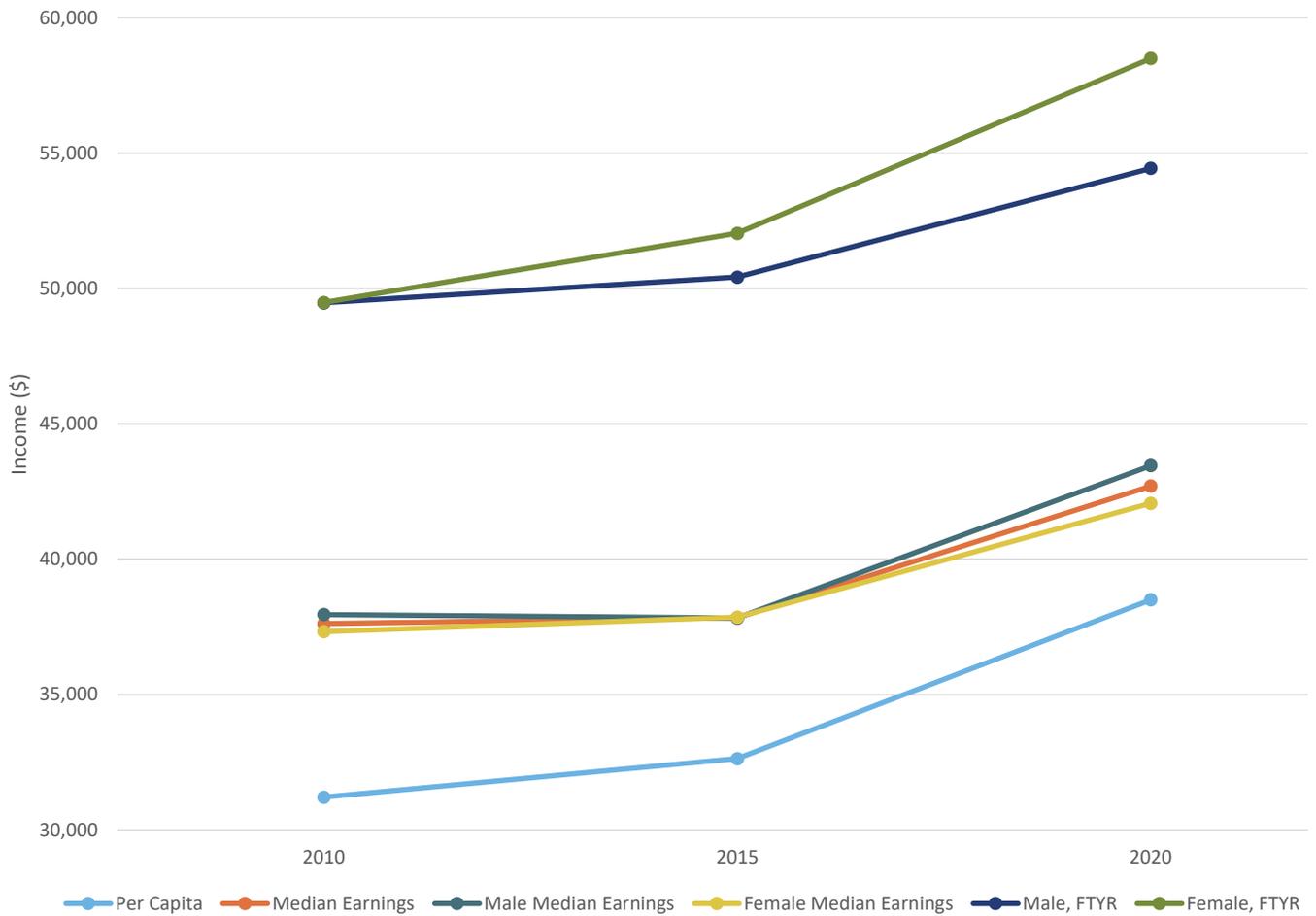
Wage Data

- The annual average of weekly wages shows general increases across the geographies of the United States, Maryland, Prince George's County, and the Washington MSA between 2017 and 2021. This represents wages across all sectors, from the public and private sectors, and includes both full- and part-time work.
- The wage data from Prince George's County lags behind the averages for both Maryland and the Washington MSA. It was generally higher than that of the entire USA until 2021.
- Because the private sector has the largest share of employees for all of the geographies in this table, gains are evident for all places during this time period.
- In this time period and compared to the other geographies in this table, Prince George's County shows the lowest gains in this period, though wages rose $162 for the average annual weekly wage and $8,440 for the average annual earnings.
- More detailed data on wage patterns is available from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 5.5 Annual Average of Weekly Wages Across All Industries ($)

	USA	MARYLAND	PRINCE GEORGE'S	WASHINGTON MSA
2017	1,065	1,146	1,090	1,435
2018	1,101	1,176	1,120	1,481
2019	1,139	1,211	1,153	1,520
2020	1,231	1,325	1,244	1,658
2021	1,300	1,379	1,286	1,724

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS).

Table 5.6 Annual Averages of Private Sector Wages

	USA		MARYLAND		PRINCE GEORGE'S		WASHINGTON MSA	
	WEEKLY AVERAGE WAGE	ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGE PER EMPLOYEE	WEEKLY AVERAGE WAGE	ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGE PER EMPLOYEE	WEEKLY AVERAGE WAGE	ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGE PER EMPLOYEE	WEEKLY AVERAGE WAGE	ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGE PER EMPLOYEE
2017	1,064	55,338	1,100	57,205	970	50,445	1,366	71,044
2018	1,100	57,198	1,129	58,732	1,001	52,026	1,410	73,317
2019	1,138	59,202	1,163	60,462	1,024	53,271	1,451	75,468
2020	1,236	64,247	1,277	66,382	1,104	57,427	1,600	83,198
2021	1,308	68,030	1,335	69,420	1,132	58,885	1,672	86,925
Dollar gains between 2017 and 2021	244	12,692	235	12,215	162	8,440	306	15,881

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS).

Socioeconomic Status and Comparative Inequality

Statistics relating to income inequality and changes in socioeconomic status for Prince George's County offer local comparisons to provide additional context.

Income Inequality

The Gini index is a standard indicator based on a calculation that measures economic inequality. It is a scale that theoretically measures how unequal a given location is based on income data. A score of 1.0 represents full and complete inequality, while a score of 0.0 means complete equality. In other words, the higher the index, the more unequal the given location is, based on the available and calculated economic data. Some comparison is necessary for greater clarity, however, and warrants a look at the Gini index for neighboring areas, particularly the inner suburban counties of Washington, D.C. By this measure, inequality overall is generally on the rise in Prince George's County and also broadly across the regional and national scales. More specific findings reveal:

- Though it is rising, the Gini index for Prince George's County is not that high, suggesting that it is relatively stable by that measure, and it is comparable to Prince William County, Virginia in the metropolitan statistical area (Table 5.7). The similarity might stem from their more suburban and exurban qualities and relative, lower level of industry compared to other areas.

- Though there has been some detectable growth in this measure, the Gini indices for both the local counties in Maryland and Virginia are generally lower than those of Maryland, Virginia, the Washington MSA, or the USA as a whole.

- Notably, the District of Columbia stands out with the highest Gini rating in the metro area at 0.52 in 2020, which is definitely on the higher end, however it has declined from 2010. Conversely, the Gini index in the suburban counties has been generally increasing during this same period.

- The entire USA, used here as a general benchmark, suggesting that, D.C. notwithstanding, the whole of the metropolitan area is a bit below the national measurement for economic inequality.

Table 5.7 Comparative Income Inequality for Local Household Income Data

	2010	2015	2020
Prince George's County, MD	0.38	0.3953	0.4032
Montgomery County, MD	0.453	0.456	0.464
District of Columbia	0.535	0.5317	0.5212
Prince William County, VA*	0.366	0.3752	0.3873
Fairfax County, VA*	0.414	0.4203	0.4332
Arlington County, VA*	0.429	0.4404	0.4426
Loudoun County, VA	0.367	0.3702	0.3922
Washington MSA	0.441	0.4526	0.4574
Virginia	0.457	0.466	0.4735
Maryland	0.441	0.45	0.4526
USA	0.467	0.4787	0.4817

*Excludes independent cities. Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Mean Aggregate Household Income

Some closer examination of Prince George's County, however, illustrates that there are still clear socioeconomic disparities within the County. A convenient measurement is to divide the County into income quintiles for analysis, which is basically a measurement of the distribution of how much income is earned by each quintile (its share) of the entire income earned in the County (the aggregate).

- Based on income data from 2010 to 2020, the share of each quintile making up the County's aggregate household income has not shown sizeable changes (Table 5.8). Yet, throughout this period, the lowest 20 percent of households make up about 4 percent of the aggregate, whereas the top 20 percent constitute about 44 percent, leaving the middle 60 percent to contribute about 50 percent.
- Of the quintiles, between 2010 and 2020, the highest quintile (top 20 percent of households) is the only one to increase its share, from 42.8 percent to 44.54 percent.
- The top 5 percent of earning households alone make up over 16 percent of the County's aggregate household income.

Table 5.8 Shares of Aggregate Household Income by Quintile for Prince George's County (%)

	LOWEST QUINTILE	SECOND QUINTILE	THIRD QUINTILE	FOURTH QUINTILE	HIGHEST QUINTILE	TOP 5%
2010	4.9%	11.1%	16.8%	24.4%	42.8%	15.4%
2015	4.43%	10.72%	16.54%	24.42%	43.89%	16.28%
2020	4.18%	10.61%	16.54%	24.13%	44.54%	16.9%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Chart 5.E Proportion of Mean Household Income in Prince George's County by Economic Quintile, 2010-2020
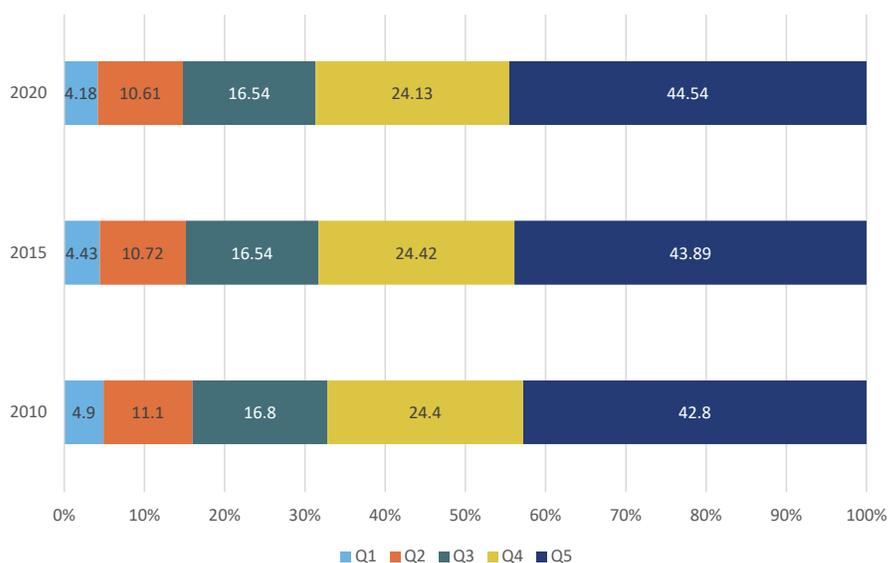
Mean Household Income Thresholds

In terms of household income in dollar value, the disparities become clearer (Table 5.9; Chart 5.F).

- In the lowest quintile, mean household income from 2010 to 2020 grew only $1,319, or 6.35 percent.
- In the highest quintile, mean household income rose $52,905, or 28.98 percent. Of the top 5 percent of households in the County, the mean household income increased by $94,100, or 35.73 percent in just that one, small segment of households.
- The statistical range between the highest and lowest quintiles also expanded dramatically in this period, from a $161,768 gap in 2010 to $213,354 in 2020—a $51,586 (31.89 percent) expansion in just ten years.
- Another common inequality ratio, commonly called "the 20/20 ratio," is an income measurement of the top quintile measured against the lowest as a ratio. The variation in the time period for this report rose from 8.78 in 2010 to 10.65 for 2020, meaning the average for the lowest earners in the highest quintile was over ten times that of the highest earners in the lowest quintile. (See Appendix A1-Section 5-The 20:20 Ratio.)
- In sum, the highest earners made the largest gains in average household income, particularly at the highest segment (5 percent) of that quintile. The financial gains separating the highest and lowest quintiles continues to widen. The lowest quintile has made only modest gains, and the middle 60 percent has made moderate gains.

Table 5.9 Shares of Aggregate Household Income by Quintile for Prince George's County (%)

	LOWEST QUINTILE	SECOND QUINTILE	THIRD QUINTILE	FOURTH QUINTILE	HIGHEST QUINTILE	TOP 5%	RANGE OF MEAN BETWEEN HIGHEST QUINTILE AND LOWEST QUINTILE ($)	NUMERICAL CHANGE IN MEAN QUINTILE HOUSEHOLD INCOME	% CHANGE IN RANGE BETWEEN HIGHEST AND LOWEST QUINTILE	20:20 RATIO
2010	20,785	47,472	71,570	103,995	182,553	263,394	161,768	/		8.78
2015	19,995	48,381	74,652	110,234	198,080	293,897	178,085	/		9.91
2020	22,104	56,089	87,443	127,586	235,458	357,494	213,354	51,586	31.89	10.65
Numerical Change in Mean Household Income from 2010 to 2020 ($)	1,319	/	/	/	52,905	94,100				
Percent Change in Mean Household Income from 2010 to 2020	6.35%	/	/	/	28.98%	35.73%				

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Chart 5.F Mean Household Income of Prince George's County, 2010-2020
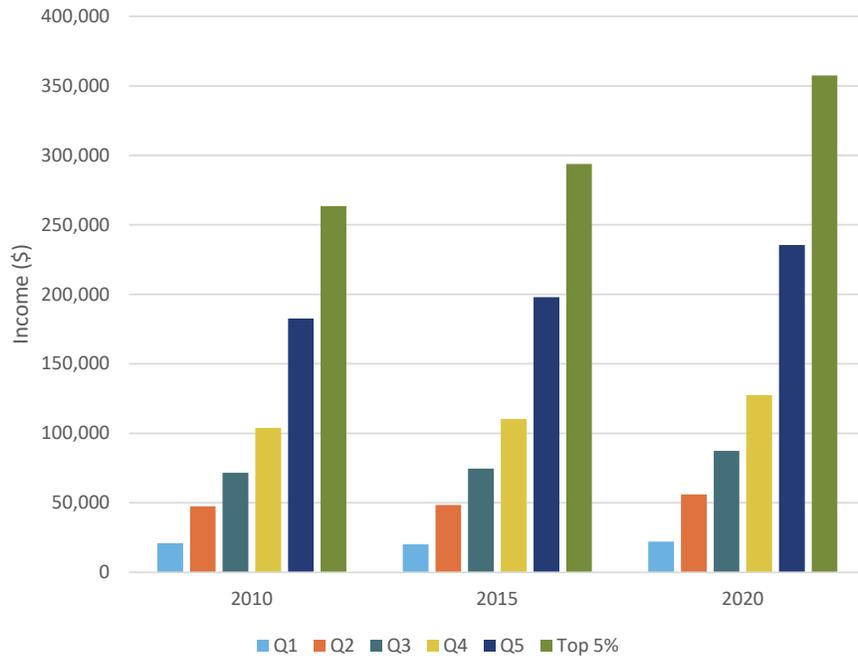
Poverty Status

Despite changes in the higher income brackets of the County, poverty status has not changed greatly since 2010 (Table 5.10). Much like health insurance, measuring poverty can be difficult, and the statistics can be irregular from year to year, especially for a single metric. This is due to a dependence on who is surveyed and who responds in a given year, as well as accounting for constantly changing economic circumstances. This table covers severable variables, however, to attempt to provide a fuller picture of poverty trends in Prince George's County.

- At the household level, households with poverty status rose in the County from 6.8 percent to 8.1 percent.
- In that same period, households receiving help from Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP, more commonly known as food stamps), also rose from 5.5 percent to 9.3 percent.
- The number of families reporting poverty status showed less dramatic change, from 5 percent in 2010 to 5.6 percent in 2020.
- The number of families receiving SNAP was higher compared to households, with 7.9 percent in 2020 and 13.2 percent in 2020.
- The mean income deficiency measures the average income for families necessary to attain an income above the poverty line (which can also periodically change). This deficiency was $8,239 in 2010 and $10,203 in 2020.
- The income-poverty ratio is another measurement estimating how much an individual's or family's income is relative to the poverty level. For example, a rating of 1.0 suggests that the income is at or roughly equivalent to the poverty level. A rating of 2.0 indicates that the income is twice the poverty level. The ratio provides an idea of the statistical distribution of poverty and wealth, as well as the severity of income deficits relative to the poverty level. Overall, this indicator showed little fluctuation for Prince George's County between 2010 and 2020.

Table 5.10 Poverty Status and Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP in Prince George's County

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Households	301,906		305,610		315,634	
Households Below Poverty Level	20,530	6.8%	25,460	8.3%	24,495	8.1%
Households Receiving SNAP	16,494	5.5%	32,855	10.8%	29,210	9.3%
Families	198,515		201,936		203,838	
Families Below Poverty Line (%)		5%		6.9%		5.6%
Families Below Povery Line with Related Children under 18 (%)		7.2%		10.4%		8.6%
Families Receiving SNAP	8,239		12,404		12,674	
Families Receiving SNAP Below Poverty Line (%)		7.9%		19.2%		13.2%
Mean Income Deficiency for Families	$8,736		$9,339		$10,203	
Income-Poverty Ratio						
Family Households	198,515		201,936		203,838	
<.5	4,327	2.18%	5,529	2.74%	4,712	2.31%
.5 to.74	2,396	1.21%	3,915	1.94%	2,703	1.34%
.75 to .99	3,191	1.61%	4,519	2.24%	4,015	1.97%
1.0 to 1.99	21,234	10.7%	25,380	12.57%	22,682	11.13%
2.0 to 2.99	27,768	14%	28,135	13.93%	25,585	12.55%
3.0 to 3.99	26,753	13.48%	26,408	13.08%	26,787	13.14%
4.0 to 4.99	24,905	12.5%	23,345	11.6%	23,552	11.55%
> 5.0	87,941	44.3%	84,705	41.9%	93,802	46.02%
Individuals for Whom Poverty Determined	831,517		871,724		889,025	
<.5	33,372	4.01%	39,290	4.51%	37,611	4.23%
.5 to .99	32,581	3.92%	44,728	5.13%	38,794	4.36%
1.0 to 1.99	105,946	12.74%	127,728	14.65%	116,509	13.12%
>2.0	659,618	79.33%	659,978	75.71%	696,111	78.3%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Labor Force Demographics

An examination of labor trends in the County demonstrates some important changes in common economic indicators. These figures echo some of the nationwide economic trends in recent years and point to the growing problem of educating and supplying a skilled labor force, economic contributions of the citizenry, and maintaining social and economic stability.

- Despite a growing population of legal working age, labor force participation declined between 2010 and 2020.
- The civilian labor force also made numerical gains, but its percentage of the local labor force also dropped between 2010 and 2020.
- The employment-population in the labor force ratio, measuring the employed population, has been fairly steady, but shows weakness when measured against the potentially available labor force (those over age 16).
- While annual unemployment rates have fallen since 2010, economic gains have shifted to those active within the labor force, and those with higher-earning occupations. This is evident by the increasing number not in the labor force, showing a shift from 25.9 percent in 2010 to 28.7 percent for 2020.
- The statistics for working women roughly follow that of the general labor statistics, showing downward trends.

Table 5.11 General Labor Force Demographics for Prince George's County

	2010	%	2015	%	2020	%
Population over 16	670,310		711,108		728,528	
In Labor Force (Labor Force Participation Rate)	496,739	74.1%	512,427	72.1%	519,332	71.3%
Civilian Labor Force	493,068	73.6%	509,962	71.7%	516,613	70.9%
Employed (Employment-Population Ratio in Labor Force)	452,182	67.5%	465,639	65.5%	483,654	66.4%
Unemployed	40,886	6.1%	44,323	6.2%	32,959	4.5%
Armed Forces	3,671	0.5%	2,465	0.3%	2,719	0.4%
Not in Labor Force	173,571	25.9%	198,681	27.9%	209,196	28.7%
Unemployment in Civilian Labor Force		8.3%		8.7%		6.4%
Females, 16+	354,730		374,183		383,110	
In Labor Force (Labor Force Participation Rate)	**252,255**	**71.1%**	**258,249**	**69.0%**	**258,719**	**67.5%**
Civilian Labor Force	251,445	70.9%	257,598	68.8%	258,096	67.4%
Employed (Employment-Population Ratio)	232,994	65.7%	236,733	63.3%	241,441	63.0%

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Chart 5.G Labor Force Trends in Prince George's County, 2010-2020
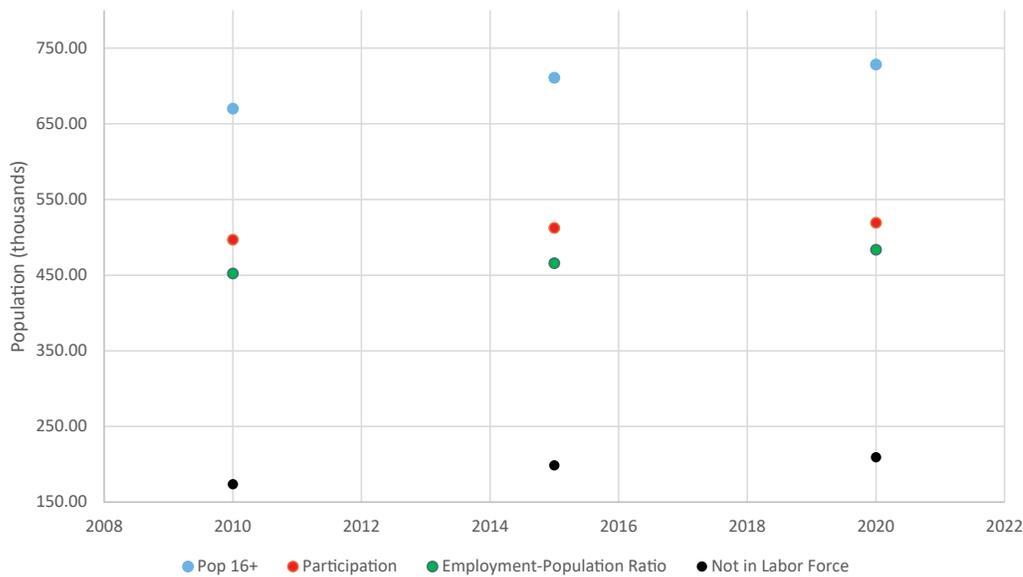
Occupations, Industries, and Location Quotients Data

A closer look at the economy and employment in Prince George's County is evident in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) data, which classifies this information (Table 5.12). A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement to compare two economies relative to each other. It represents the share of employment in a particular sector measured against that of a larger area. An LQ measurement of 0 shows no employment in a given sector or area, a rating of 1 shows identical economic output, an LQ lower than 1 indicates an area's lower specialization than its reference area, and a rating higher than 1 indicates greater specialization than the reference area. The LQ helps to identify industries or sectors that stand out or are concentrated in a given economy, have a particular local importance, how economic composition changes over time, and analyzing establishments, employment, and sources of tax revenues (Klosterman et al. 2018: 138-141). An LQ can be measured locally, regionally, at the state level, or nationally. Here, we measure the LQ of Prince George's County relative to the Washington MSA and the whole state of Maryland to get a picture of the County's important economic role and contribution for both the region's and state's economy for the NAICS classification (see Table 5.12 and Appendix A1-Section 5-Location Quotient).

- Between 2010 and 2020, Prince George's County did not show any drastic changes in the composition of employment for its local economy.
- In this period, there were slight increases in the construction; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; professional, scientific, management, and administrative; educational services, health care, social assistance; and arts, entertainment, recreation, and food services industries.
- Manufacturing; wholesale trade; information; finance, insurance, and real estate; and public administration experienced slight declines in their percentage of employment.
- The majority of employed individuals in the County are concentrated in the private sector, and their share has increased, rising from 67.1 percent in 2010 to 69.4 percent in 2020.
- Self-employed individuals have also risen, from 4.1 percent in 2010 to 4.8 percent in 2020. General trends suggest that this number may increase further.
- Because government is such a large employer in the MSA, some analysis of this industry shows that, overall, government employment declined between 2010 and 2020, from 28.8 percent to 25.7 percent. Of full-time, year-round government employees, the majority are employed in federal government, though their share decreased from 19.61 percent in 2010 to 17.28 percent in 2020. Likewise, the percent share of local government employees also declined in that period, from 8.15 percent to 7.67 percent. On the other hand, the percent share of employees in state government showed a slight uptick, rising from 3.97 percent to 4.03 percent.
- Of the government work force in Prince George's County, roughly 26 percent are employed in local government, about 13 percent in state government, and around 60 percent in the federal government, with only minor changes from 2010 to 2020.

- Compared to the regional economy, for 2020 LQ measured against 2010 LQ, Prince George's County shows greater strength in construction, retail, transportation, and the arts. The County is comparatively weaker in agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale trade, finance, and public administration. The County and MSA have roughly the same LQ for the information, professional, educational, and "other" sectors.

- Compared to the wider state economy, Prince George's County is stronger in construction, retail, arts, transportation, and "other" sectors. The County's LQ is less than the state's in the agricultural, manufacturing, wholesale, professional, and public administration sectors. The County and state have roughly the same LQ for the information, education, and financial sectors for the 2020 LQ compared to 2010 LQ.

Table 5.12 Industries of Employment and Worker Classification in Prince George's County, Washington MSA, and State of Maryland

	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY				WASHINGTON MSA				MARYLAND			
	2010	%	2020	%	2010	%	2020	%	2010	%	2020	%
Civilian Employed Population, 16 years and older	452,182		483,654		2,889,207		3,339,285		2,903,595		3,076,280	
Industry of Employed Population												
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining	1,027	0.2%	792	0.2%	9,747	0.3%	10,623	0.3%	14,783	0.5%	15,658	0.5%
Construction	36,620	8.1%	42,771	8.8%	196,582	6.8%	217,647	6.5%	217,804	7.5%	218,284	7.1%
Manufacturing	12,197	2.7%	10,501	2.2%	94,041	3.3%	95,739	2.9%	152,988	5.3%	139,913	4.5%
Wholesale Trade	7,199	1.6%	5,665	1.2%	40,771	1.4%	38,158	1.1%	65,641	2.3%	53,107	1.7%
Retail Trade	38,597	8.5%	41,294	8.5%	237,128	8.2%	262,364	7.9%	283,706	9.8%	284,694	9.3%
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	25,725	5.7%	31,103	6.4%	106,116	3.7%	133,799	4.0%	129,818	4.5%	148,833	4.8%
Information	12,495	2.8%	10,091	2.1%	99,440	3.4%	84,469	2.5%	77,699	2.7%	58,832	1.9%
Finance, insurance, real estate	25,968	5.7%	23,475	4.9%	193,133	6.7%	203,746	6.1%	197,722	6.8%	187,726	6.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative	67,493	14.9%	74,052	15.3%	593,159	20.5%	714,177	21.4%	422,979	14.6%	484,811	15.8%
Educational services, health care, social assistance	96,680	21.4%	106,524	22.0%	536,640	18.6%	652,209	19.5%	647,365	22.3%	730,263	23.7%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, food services	32,271	7.1%	43,178	8.9%	221,405	7.7%	282,012	8.4%	218,477	7.5%	250,590	8.1%
Other services, except public administration	25,691	5.7%	28,604	5.9%	178,159	6.2%	214,945	6.4%	155,921	5.4%	167,531	5.4%
Public administration	70,219	15.5%	65,604	13.6%	382,886	13.3%	429,397	12.9%	318,692	11.0%	336,038	10.9%
Full-time, Year-Round, Civilian Empoyees, 16 years and older	332,437	% FT, YR	361,425	%FT, YR	2,098,535		2,489,506					
Local Government Employees	27,079	8.15%	27,788	7.67%	142,822	6.81%	164,768	6.62%				
State Government Employees	13,203	3.97%	14,577	4.03%	45,934	2.19%	59,594	2.39%				
Federal Government Employees	65,199	19.61%	62,461	17.28%	362,712	17.28%	417,409	16.77%				
Total Government Workforce in Prince George's County (Full-time-Year-Round, Civilian, 16 years or older)	105,481	% Gov WF	104,826	%Gov WF								
Local		25.67%		26.50%								
State		12.52%		13.91%								
Federal		61.81%		59.59%								

Source: The U.S. Census Bureau, 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS).

Table 5.13 Location Quotients, 2010 vs. 2020

INDUSTRY	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LQ FOR MSA		PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LQ FOR MARYLAND	
	2010	2020	2010	2020
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining	0.67	0.51	0.45	0.32
Construction	1.19	1.36	1.08	1.25
Manufacturing	0.83	0.76	0.51	0.48
Wholesale Trade	1.13	1.03	0.7	0.68
Retail Trade	1.04	1.09	0.87	0.92
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	1.55	1.6	1.27	1.33
Information	0.8	0.82	1.03	1.09
Finance, insurance, real estate	0.86	0.8	0.84	0.8
Professional, scientific, management, administrative	0.73	0.72	1.02	0.97
Educational services, health care, social assistance	1.15	1.13	0.96	0.93
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, food services	0.93	1.06	0.95	1.1
Other services, except public administration	0.92	0.92	0.06	1.09
Public administration	1.17	1.05	1.41	1.24

Source: The Prince George's County Planning Department

Comparative Monthly Unemployment

The following table and chart show unemployment rates by month for 2020 and 2021, comparing Prince George's County, the Washington MSA, the State of Maryland, and the USA. The numbers in this report were not seasonally adjusted. Note that employment statistics can be and are regularly revised and can change without notice and the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates employment statistics differently than the census.

Table 5.14 Comparative Monthly Unemployment Rates, 2019-2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

JURISDICTION/ LOCATION	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY		WASHINGTON MSA		MARYLAND		USA	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
January	4.2	7.8	3.3	5.4	4	5.9	4	6.8
February	4.2	7.6	3	5.3	4.2	5.7	3.8	6.6
March	5.3	7.7	3.6	5.3	4.2	5.7	4.5	6.2
April	9.7	7.8	9.9	4.9	9.5	5.7	14.4	5.7
May	12	7.9	9.5	5.1	9.5	5.7	13	5.5
June	10.7	8.3	9.2	5.7	8.6	6.1	11.2	6.1
July	9.9	8.3	8.5	5.4	8.1	6.1	10.5	5.7
August	8.6	8.6	7.3	5.3	7.2	6.2	8.5	5.3
September	8.3	6.8	6.6	4.4	6.8	5.8	7.7	4.6
October	8.2	6.5	6	4.1	6.2	5.7	6.6	4.3
November	7.9	6.5	5.7	3.9	6.1	5.4	6.4	3.9
December	7.5	5.8	5.3	3.6	6.3	5.4	6.5	3.7

Source: U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Chart 5.H Recent Comparative Unemployment Trends, 2020-2021
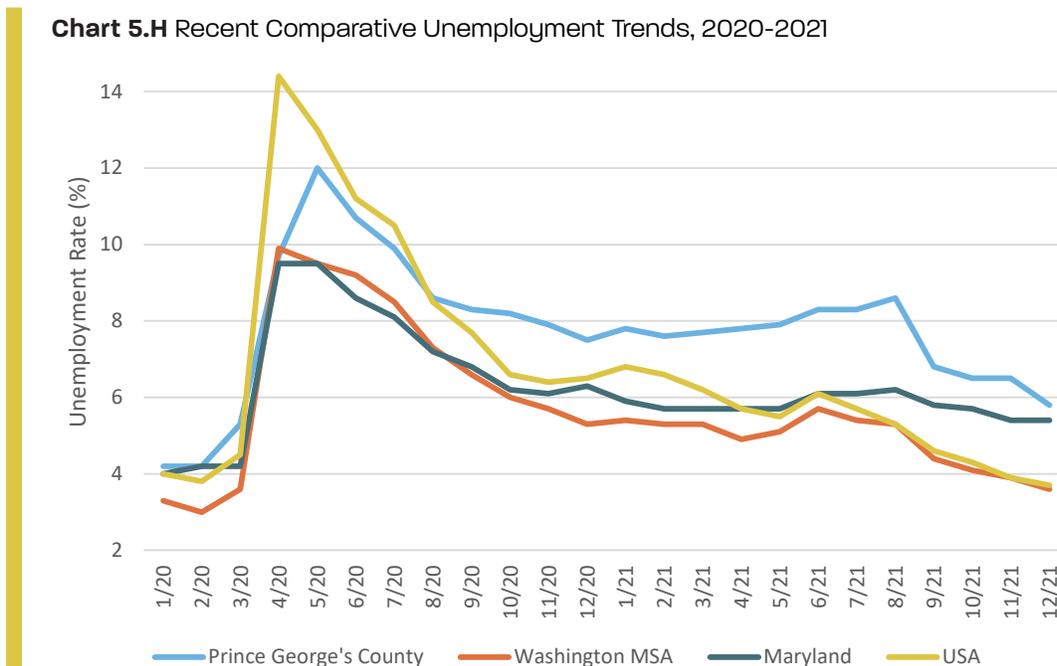
Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a common economic indicator that measures the aggregate cost of goods in a major metropolitan area for typical items that any consumer would need or buy, and serves as a general gauge of inflation, cost of living, etc. This table compares, over a period of five years, the annual CPI of the Washington MSA to that of Atlanta, Houston, Miami, and Philadelphia. These MSAs were chosen because they are all metropolitan areas with a population of roughly 6 million and are sometimes compared as peer cities for planning or development purposes.

- Going back to 2017, the CPI has increased for all of these areas, though it has increased less dramatically for the Washington MSA for that period. (Chart 5I)
- A closer look at the CPI for the Washington, D.C. MSA for the period between January 2019 and July 2022 shows a sharp increase, rising by over $30 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' measurement. This suggests noticeable change in the cost of living for general goods as related to increasing inflation at the national and international levels. (See Chart 5.I.)

Table 5.15 Comparative Annual Consumer Price Index for Selected MSAs (2017-2021) (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

ANNUAL CPI	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Washington	256.22	261.45	264.78	267.16	277.73
Atlanta	232.89	238.58	243.73	246.65	261.63
Houston	220.66	225.93	228.8	229.16	238.98
Miami	256.68	265.07	269.78	272.1	283.97
Philadelphia	248.42	251.56	256.62	258.92	269.37

Source: U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Chart 5.I Comparative Annual CPIs for Selected Major MSAs, 2017-2021
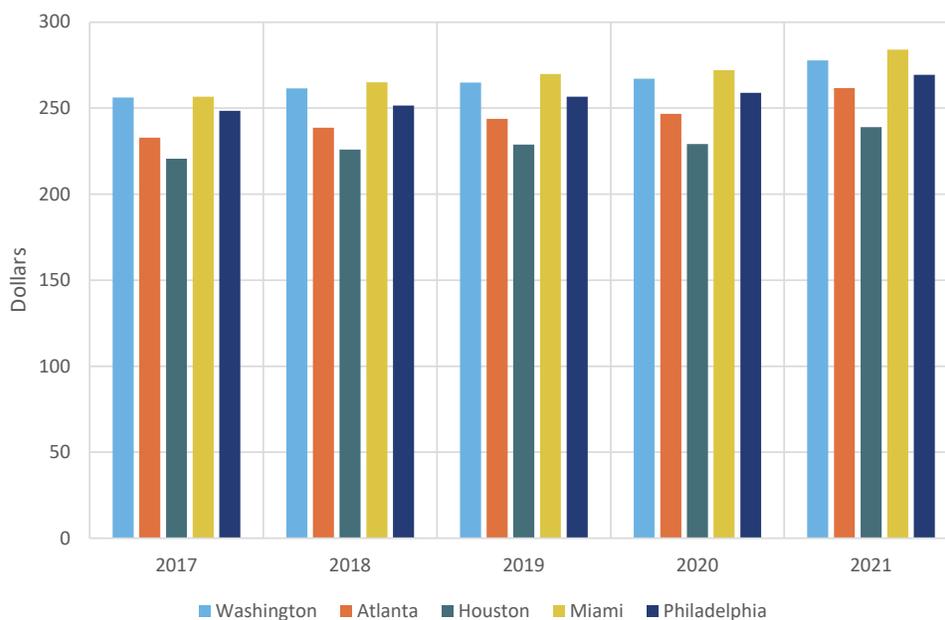
Table 5.16 Washington MSA CPI, January 2019—July 2022

	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	262.304	266.433	270.535	286.678
March	264.257	265.385	272.347	292.227
May	265.967	265.733	275.822	296.559
July	265.17	267.287	279.099	299.94
September	265	268.788	280.933	
November	265.026	268.7	284.24	

Source: U.S. Department of Labor/Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Chart 5.J Bi-Monthly CPI for Washington MSA, January 2019-July 2022
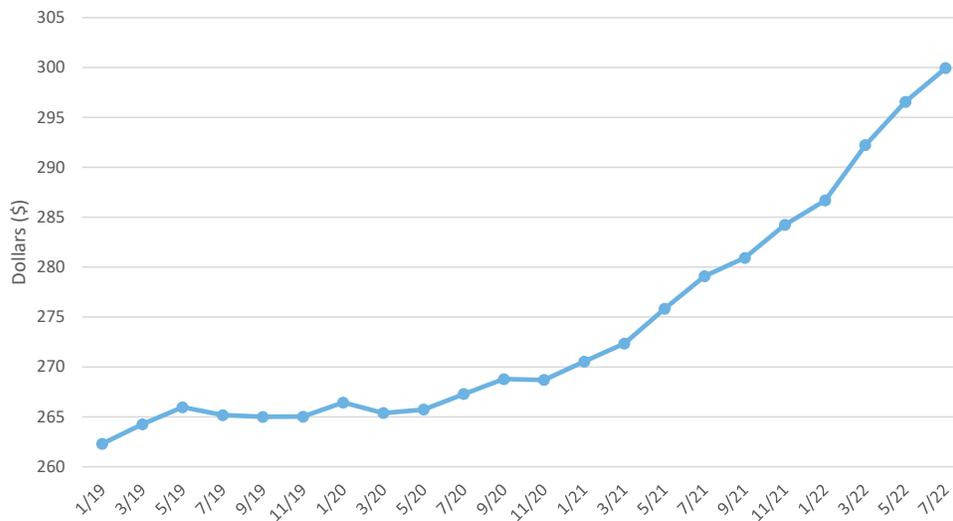
Gross Domestic Product

Gross domestic product, commonly referred to as the GDP, is a major economic indicator that measures the monetary value of goods and services in a given location. It is a way to gain a sense of economic value and output. Here, we measure the GDP of Maryland, the Washington MSA, and Prince George's County over a period of four years.

- From 2017 to 2020, the GDP for both Maryland and Prince George's County declined, while the MSA's GDP rose.
- The Washington MSA's GDP is significantly greater than that of the entire State of Maryland.
- Between 2017 and 2020, Prince George's County represented about 11 percent of Maryland's GDP. In that same period, the County contributed to about 8 percent of the MSA's GDP.

Table 5.17 Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

	MARYLAND	WASHINGTON MSA	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY	PRINCE GEORGE'S SHARE OF MD GDP	PRINCE GEORGE'S SHARE OF MSA'S GDP
2017	$366,680,527	$482, 130,681	$40,589,999	11.07%	8.42%
2018	$368,643,905	$492,420,532	$41,606,626	11.29%	8.45%
2019	$369,623,938	$499,243,237	$42,021,090	11.37%	8.41%
2020	$353,052,548	$485,142,527	$39,905,568	11.30%	8.23%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce/Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Section 6

Appendix

A1. Explanatory Notes and Formulas

The following provides details for sections or calculations that may require further explanation.

Section 1. General Demographic Data

POPULATION DENSITY

Population Density is the total population divided by a specific unit with a geographical measurement (e.g. acres, square miles, square kilometers, etc.). It provides a rough estimate of the population within that unit and is important because it gives indications of population growth, land pressure and development/sustainability, health, economic trends, and can be a predictor of migration patterns.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Population}}{\text{Land Unit Area}}$$

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The **growth rate** is the estimated rate at which a population is calculated to grow. The general formula is:

$$GR = \frac{[P2 - P1]}{P1(\Delta t)},$$

where P = population, at the original (P_1) and later (P_2) time, with Δ_t representing change in time.

For **exponential growth**, the rate is calculated:

$$r = \frac{ln\,[(Pt + n - Pt)]}{[n * ln\,(2.71828)]} * 100$$

Population projections project what a population will be in the future following certain assumptions. There are numerous methods, but this report uses three of the most standard.

Linear Method—Assumes a constant growth rate, and is calculated:

$P_2 = P_1 + (P_1 * \text{Growth rate} * t)$

Geometric Method—Assumes an incremental growth curve, in a step-like pattern, and is calculated:

$P_2 = P_1 * (1 + GR)^t$

Exponential Method—A smooth, continuous type of growth, based on constant population changes, and is calculated after first determining the growth rate with a standard constant:

1) $P_2 = P_1 * e^{GR*t}$

2) $GR = [\ln (P_2/P_1)]/t$,

where $e = 2.71828$

Note: Decennial Census data represent data sets as of April 1. ACS data represent data sets as of July 1. This is important to consider depending on the base year (P_1) and launch year (P_2) used in calculating a population projection. For calculating rates or growth and time change, the quarter-year difference must be taken into account. Adjustments are not necessary if the base and launch years come from the same data set.

Section 2. Population Components

DEPENDENCY RATIOS

The **age-dependency ratio** measures the people of working age (18-65) versus those who are dependent (under 18 and over 65), or the number of dependents for the working-age population. The **aged-child ratio** indicates whether a population is young or aging.

Age-Dependent Cohort

$ADC = P_{<18} + P_{65+}$

Age-Dependency Ratio

$[P_{<18} + P_{65+}] / P_{18-64}$

Old-Age Dependency Ratio

P_{65+} / P_{18-64}

Child-Dependency Ratio

$P_{<18} / P_{18-64}$

SEX RATIO

The **sex ratio** is the number of males per 100 females in a given population. It can also be a rough indicator of migration and mortality. It is calculated:

$SR = (m/f) * 100$

Section 5. Economic and Socioeconomic Data

PEW INCOME THRESHOLD

Take 2/3 * [Median Household Income] to determine threshold of lower income, and 2 * [Median Household Income] to determine threshold for higher income.

EARNINGS RATIO (ER)

$$\text{ER} = \frac{women's\ median\ earnings}{men's\ median\ earnings}$$

THE 20:20 RATIO

Besides the Gini index, a common measurement of inequality is the **20:20 ratio**, which measures the income of the highest quintile of a population against the lowest quintile to produce a ratio of the highest mean income against the lowest.

$$Inequality\ Ratio = \frac{QN_5}{QN_1}$$

LOCATION QUOTIENT

A **location quotient** (LQ) is a measurement to compare two economies relative to each other. It represents the share of employment in a particular sector measured against that of a larger area, comparing the proportion of industries of a smaller and larger location.

$$LQ_I = [(e_i/e_T) / (E_i/E_T)]$$

Where LQ is the location quotient for a given sector; e_I is the number of employees in the subregion; e is the total number of employees in the subregion; E_I is the number of employees in the sector in the larger region; and E_T is the total number of employees in the larger region.

LABOR DEMOGRAPHICS

The **labor force** includes the population that is able to participate in the workforce. **Labor force participation** is the ratio of the labor force and the people that are active within it. The **employment-population ratio** is the proportion of the working-age population in the workforce. Monthly economic data are calculated using the Current Population Survey, though annual data are available from the U.S.Census Bureau and its many economic surveys and programs.

$$Unemployment\ rate = \frac{Unemployed}{Civilian\ Labor\ Force}$$

$$Labor\ Force\ Participation\ Rate = \frac{Labor\ Force}{Civilian\ Population}$$

$$Employment - Population\ Ratio = \frac{Employed}{Civilian\ Population}$$

A2. Data and Methods

Data for this report were gathered from publicly available data sources, primarily from state and federal government, including the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the Maryland State Data Center, and other data sources where appropriate. This data is free and publicly available on the Internet, and the sources are listed at the end of this report. An appendix is also included to explain calculations for data that required further analysis. The 2020 ACS data is the most complete set of data available for the preparation of this report; future reports will incorporate the most current data available.

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts surveys of the entire population of the United States every 10 years, or every year that ends in zero (the decennial census for 2000, 2010, etc.). The response rates are typically high and collect data on the majority of the American population for topics such as race, sex, housing, and economics. The decennial census data set is preferable for these topics, when available, as it is a comprehensive collection of data.

The U.S. Census Bureau also has a number of other survey programs and departments for more specialized studies and regularly published reports. The ACS is a division of the U.S. Census Bureau and conducts surveys more frequently, collecting detailed data on more topics than the decennial census covers. The result is that there may be discrepancies on similar topics where different analyses required the use of different data sources—e.g., some data on employment using both ACS and BLS data, or more detailed age analysis using 5-year ACS versus more general age data referencing the decennial census.

There are two main ACS surveys—the 5-Year ACS that collects responses representing five years of data and the 1-Year ACS, an annual survey that is sent out each year. The ACS surveys use sample-based estimates, whereas a decennial census is the 100 percent enumeration. The 5-year survey covers a moving average that is 5 percent of the population, therefore, the 5-year estimates are more accurate than the 1-year estimates and are available for any geography with 65,000 persons or fewer. The exception is the socioeconomic data at the census block level due to the federal confidentiality act (https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/olc/opinions/attachments/2016/03/18/2010-01-04-census-confidentiality.pdf).

The 1-year survey represents a smaller, more recent sample representing about 1 percent of the population. One-year ACS data is preferable in studies that examine data year-over-year because the sample data does not overlap like the 5-year survey. It is generally a better method to measure change over time (Klosterman et. al 2018: 265-266). One-year ACS data were not available for 2020, and therefore this report uses the 5-Year ACS, in most cases, to provide context and allow for the analysis of trends based on survey data that does not overlap or show statistical distortion if analyzed annually. Some data sets for 2020 were not updated, and therefore the most recent 1- or 5-year data are used. Some topics in this edition of the report use mixed sources to provide a larger picture than relying on data for a single year. In cases where the data demonstrated higher margins of error or larger inconsistencies with raw numbers and percentages, we use percentages of the total population(s) for the given data set.

An important methodological note to add for this edition is that response rates at the household level for the 2020 5-Year ACS were comparatively and noticeably lower than in recent years for Prince George's County. This was not a unique case and undoubtedly skewed some of the precision, accuracy,

and comprehensiveness of the statistics for 2020, both locally and nationally. The census provides reasons for non-responses, which are necessary to consider for future planning and outreach efforts.

Response Rates for the American Community Survey (ACS)

Housing Unit Response Rates for ACS			
	2010	**2015**	**2020**
Response Rate	93.7	94.5	82.4
Non-Response Rate	6.3	5.5	17.6
Reason for Non-Response			
Refusal	2.8	2	9.2
Unable to Locate	0.9	0	0
No One Home	1.6	0.5	0.4
Temporarily Absent	0.1	0	0.1
Language Barrier/Problem	0.1	0	0.1
Insufficient Data	0.2	0.3	0.4
Other Reason	0.6	2.6	3.9
Maximum Contact Attempts Reached	/	/	3.4

Source: 5-Year ACS data.

Disclaimer on Data Sources and Quality

- Not all data are released, updated, or available consistently or at the same time intervals. The most current demographic data from the U.S. Census Bureau (including ACS) are typically from the most recent calendar year. Economic data may be monthly, quarterly, annual, etc. Data is never static. Numbers are also periodically revised after a survey is conducted, sometimes several times within the same year, and might not be fully consistent from one report to the next. Some surveys add or delete questions every few years and do not gather the exact same information for a given topic or category.

- The data are only as good as they are reported by their respective agency. We make no claim or endorsement of their complete accuracy.

- The population data are almost always low, as they are dependent on response rates, which are never 100 percent.

- Be aware that it is not unusual for data to be somewhat inconsistent. Understand that data from different sources will likely provide different results.

- Results are based on solid estimates that can be used as references . Because data are estimates, there is a margin of error, even at the county level.

- Population projections become less accurate the further into the future the numbers go. They are not intended to be "predictions" of future populations. Population forecasts are land use based and in the policy context. There are differences between projections and forecasts in the planning terms.

- We cannot guarantee that the data is or are (be consistent throughout the document) free of errors, either in the sources we consult, or by our own mistakes or oversights.

A3. References and Sources Consulted

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Digital Databases and Government Data Sources

U.S. Census Bureau (data.census.gov)
Maryland State Data Center (https://planning.maryland.gov/MSDC/)
Department of Housing and Urban Development (hud.gov)
Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov)
Bureau of Economic Analysis (bea.gov)