

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

# FISCAL & ECONOMIC UPDATE

**QUARTERLY REPORT** 

# **SEPTEMBER 2020**

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND



#### Inside this Report:

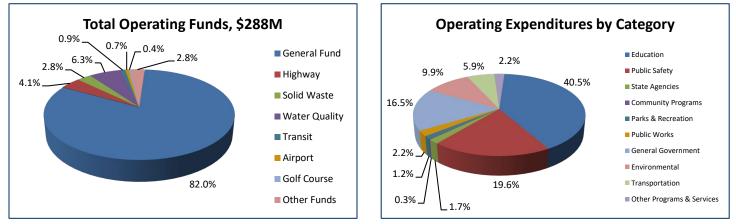


Washington County is located in northwestern Maryland, bordered by Pennsylvania to the north and West Virginia to the south. It is bordered on the east by Frederick County, Maryland and on the west by Allegany County, Maryland. Washington County is approximately 70 miles from Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland. Two major highways, Interstate 81 - running north and south, and Interstate 70 - running east and west, cross within Washington County's borders. The County is a body corporate and politic and is a mid-size, multi-service local government serving the needs of approximately 151,000 residents with nine incorporated municipalities. Under public local law both the executive and legislative functions of the County are vested in the elected, five member Board of County Commissioners of Washington County. The County Commissioners are elected on a county-wide basis and serve four-year terms. Other elected County funded positions include County Sheriff, Treasurer, and State's Attorney.

Information provided below indicates where Washington County ranks within Maryland Counties for the services and statistics provided among 23 counties and Baltimore City for FY2017, the most recent available year.

Population Rank	11th
Property Tax per capita	20th
Per pupil local funding	18th
Expenditure per capita	23rd
Revenue per capita	23rd

#### **FINANCIAL STATS**



Washington County will spend approximately \$288 million annually on public services in FY2021. The General Fund budget represents the County's largest fund at \$236 million. Major revenues that make up the General Fund budget are Property Tax, Local Income Tax, and Other Local Taxes including Recordation Tax, Service Fees, and Intergovernmental Grants. General Fund dollars are spent on Education, Public Safety, Debt Service, General Government, Courts, State Agencies, Community Programs, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, and sometimes support other funds through an intergovernmental transfer.

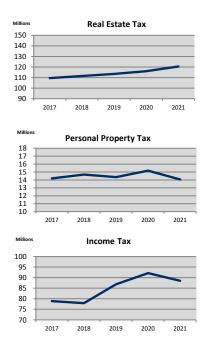
# MAJOR REVENUE TRENDS

The following information summarizes key revenue sources that affect the County's overall financial condition. Many of these revenues change with the economy. Amounts reflect distributions received as of the reported date. The revenue graphs to the right reflect total actual revenues collected for each of the prior fiscal years and the projected total annual revenue based on existing trends for the current year. The current year will change as the year progresses.

Real Estate Tax					
Year-to-Date Bu			ariance	Actual Growth	
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %	
119,322,020	120,504,067	1,182,047	1.0%	3.2%	

Personal Property Tax						
Year-to-	Budget V	ariance	Actual Growth			
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %		
5,080,372	527,121	(4,553,251)	(89.6%)	(80.8%)		

Income Tax					
Year-to	Budget Variance		Actual Growth		
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %	
2,784,631	6,617,039	3,832,408	137.6%	298.9%	



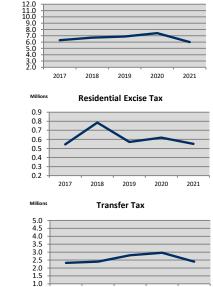
#### SEPTEMBER 2020

**Recordation Tax** 

# MAJOR REVENUE TRENDS (CONTINUED)

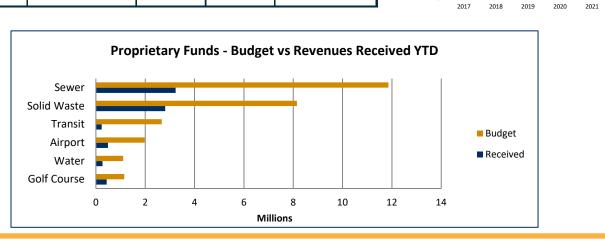
Recordation Tax					
Year-to	Budget Variance		Actual Growth		
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %	
1,455,532	1,634,059	178,527	12.3%	(17.6%)	

Residential Excise Tax					
Year-to	Budget Variance		Actual Growth		
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %	
167,729	260,188	92,459	55.1%	134.3%	



Million

Transfer Tax					
Year-to	Budget Variance		Actual Growth		
Budget	Revenues	\$	%	PY vs. CY %	
625,091	765,557	140,466	22.5%	(10.0%)	

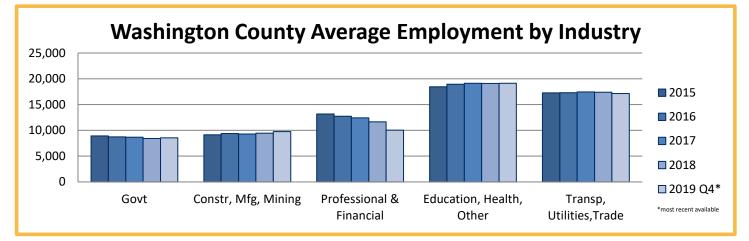


#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR EXPENDITURE ACTIVITY

Expenditure Activity by Major Fund (in millions)						
Fund	Budget	Spent	Encumbered	Unexpended	% Expended	
General	249.0	68.3	6.4	174.3	27%	
Highway	11.7	2.2	0.4	9.1	19%	
Solid Waste	8.2	1.3	2.2	4.7	16%	
Water	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.8	24%	
Sewer	11.9	2.6	0.2	9.1	22%	
Transit	2.7	0.6	0.1	2.0	23%	
Airport	2.0	0.4	0.1	1.5	23%	
Golf Course	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.8	25%	
Total	287.7	76.0	9.4	202.3	26%	

The table to the left compares major yearto-date expenditure activity to budgeted funding. It incorporates the variance by dollar and percentage, along with total expenditure activity. Funds expended and encumbered should average around 25% if not subject to seasonal fluctuation.

#### **EMPLOYMENT DATA**



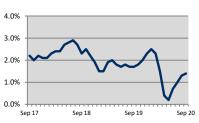
	Employment Statistics - September					Average Unemployment Rate
		County		State	National	12.0%
Fiscal Year	Number of Employed	Number of Unemployed	Unemployment	Unemployment	Unemployment	10.0% 8.0% 6.0%
2020	72,878	2,604	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	4.0%
2021	64,667	4,421	6.4%	7.2%	7.9%	0.0% 2011 2016 20

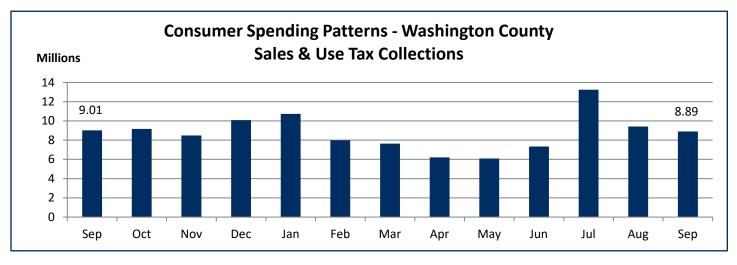
#### SPENDING DATA

Consumer Price Index (CPI)					
Current Period Prior Period					
Index	Annual Change	Index	Annual Change		
260.2	1.4%	256.6	1.7%		

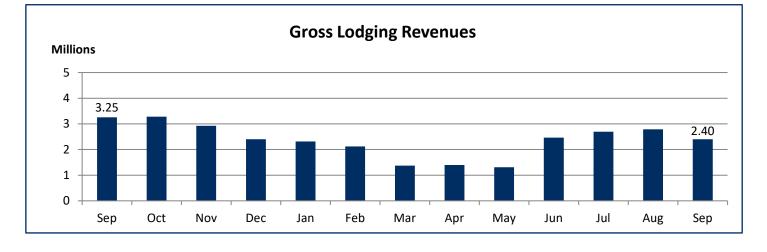


2021





# SPENDING DATA (CONTINUED)



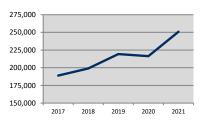
# HOUSING DATA

New Residential Housing Permits Issued						
Area	Prior YTD		Variance			
Aled		Current HD	# of Permits	% Change		
Washington County	58	60	2	3.4%		
City of Hagerstown	30	32	2	6.7%		
Total	88	92	4	4.5%		

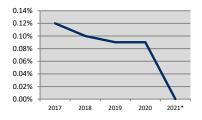
	Nev	v Housi	ng Peri	nit Act	ivity
100 -					
90 -					-
80 -					
70 -					
60 -					
50 -					
40 -		T	· · · ·		,,
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021

Washington County Housing Statistics			
Housing Activity:	2020 YTD	2021 YTD	% Change
Average Price Sold	216,436	250,927	15.9%
Total Units Sold	562	591	5.2%
Average Inventory	678	297	(56.2%)
Foreclosure Activity:			
Average Foreclosure Rate:			
Washington County	0.09%	0.00%	(100.0%)
State of Maryland	0.07%	0.01%	(85.7%)
National	0.04%	0.01%	(75.0%)





#### Average Foreclosure Rate



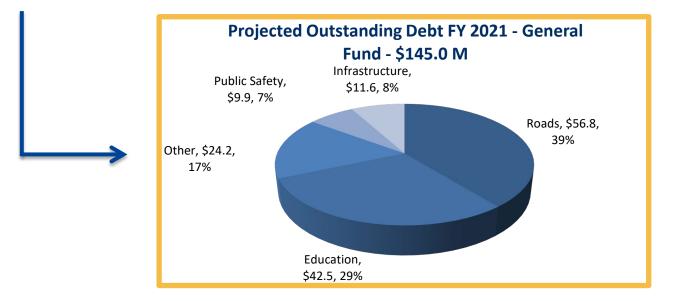
\*per the CARES Act of 2020 a moratorium on foreclosures was enacted March 18, 2020 for covered properties. This includes properties with a federally backed mortgage or multifamily mortgage loan; or participates in a covered housing program or the rural housing voucher program.

#### FISCAL & ECONOMIC UPDATE

#### PROJECTED OUTSTANDING DEBT JUNE 30, 2021



The charts to the left represent current outstanding debt and anticipated borrowing for the current fiscal year ended 2021. Final determination of new bond issue amounts are typically made in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the fiscal year barring any change in issuance patterns.



Bond Ratings		
Rating Agency	Fiscal Year 2020 Rating	
Standard & Poor's	AA+	
Moody's	Aa1	
Fitch	AA+	

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND



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Wayne K. Keefer **County Commissioner** wkeefer@washco-md.net

**County Commissioner** 





Randall E. Wagner **County Commissioner** rwagner@washco-md.net

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#### **100 West Washington Street** Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This report is designed to communicate the County's major financial trends for the indicated period since the issuance of the prior audited financial statements. The report is interim in nature and abbreviated in that it does not include details for all the various funds maintained by the County. Additionally, this report omits of the required note many disclosures typically found in a fiscal financial year-end statement report. The information contained intended allow here is to management to make limited assessments of near-term trends that may have an impact on operations and financial results. Management views this interim period as an integral part of the annual period. This report includes information regarding some of the more notable recent developments that may impact County finances, along with summarized information relating to various operations within the County. This report is general in nature. The reader is cautioned that it does not provide the level of detail nor the comprehensive scope found in a fiscal year-end financial statement. Those desiring or needing such

information should contact the Office of Budget and Finance. We hope that you find this report informative and meaningful. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact the Office of Budget and Finance at 240-313-2300.

This report is provided for general information use only. The information contained in the document speaks only as of its report date.