PHP Committee #1 March 6, 2023 **Briefing** 

#### MEMORANDUM

February 21, 2023

TO: Planning, Housing, and Parks (PHP) Committee

FROM: Eunice Jeong, Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: Briefing on "Homeownership Equity and Affordability in Montgomery County"

PURPOSE: Updates and panel discussion on homeownership in the County

#### Those expected for this worksession:

#### Introduction/Overview

- Jason Sartori, Chief of Countywide Planning and Policy, and Lisa Govoni, Housing Planner IV, Montgomery County Planning Department
- LaToya Thomas, Housing Indicator Tool Policy Director, HAND

#### Organizations that assist in homeownership

- Jeff Dee and Sarah Reddinger, Habitat for Humanity
- Maury Peterson, Executive Director, Rebuilding Together
- Avi Adler, President, Greater Capital Area Association of Realtors
- Mary Gentry, Chief, Division of Housing, and Somer Cross, Manager, Affordable Housing, Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- Chelsea Andrews, Executive Director, and Monte Stanford, Director of Mortgage Finance, Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission
- Maddy Ciulu, Director, Single Family Housing, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Mary Hunter, Director of Housing Counseling, Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.

At this session, the Committee will receive an overview of local and regional homeownership data, with a focus on racial disparity.

Following the overview, the Committee will hear observations and experiences related to homeownership from two panels: one focused on the economics of homeownership and the other focused on public resources for homebuyers and potential homebuyers in Montgomery County.

#### **General Background Information**

The County provides several programs and initiatives to assist homebuyers in Montgomery County.

The <u>Design for Life (DFL)</u> Property Tax Incentive Program serves low-income senior homeowners eligible for home improvements and accessibility enhancements. The program is budgeted for \$300,000 and is established to operate as follows: \$10K for any homeowner who is 62+ or physically handicapped and \$20K for any homeowner who otherwise qualifies and is at 50% AMI or less. There is discretion for the Director to provide more if needed. DHCA aims to begin providing loans in FY23.

The program provides three tiers of property tax incentives to encourage the renovation or construction of homes that are more universally accessible:

- 1. Accessible Features tax incentive supports the construction of certain features that are permanently installed to improve access to or within an owner's principal residence (not limited to single-family homes).
- 2. Level I (VISITable)\* tax incentives are available for permanent installations to any new or existing single-family homes, townhomes and duplexes that meet a Level I accessibility threshold.
- 3. Level II (LIVEable)\*\* tax incentives are available for permanent installations to any new or existing single-family homes, townhomes and duplexes that meet a Level II accessibility threshold.

For new home construction, a school impact tax credit may be available for projects meeting Level I Accessibility standards.

The **Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU)** homeownership program offers affordably priced homes – both new and resale – to first-time homebuyers who have a moderate level of household income, defined at under 70% of Area Median Income (AMI)\*\*\*. Home types include condos, single-family detached houses, duplexes, and townhouses (most common).

The Program requires that a percentage of for-sale housing units in residential developments be made available for low- and moderate-income households for a 30-year timeframe ("control period.") To maintain affordability, the County imposes certain resale and occupancy restrictions on the MPDUs during the control period. Today, there are more than 3,600 MPDU sale units, and hundreds of households on the waitlist for selection.

The Program was established under County legislation adopted by the County Council and approved by the County Executive. Certain program requirements such as income limits, maximum sale prices and rental rates are set through executive regulations developed by the Department of Housing and Community Affairs and approved by the County Executive and the County Council. The MPDU program is primarily implemented through two sections of the Montgomery County Code: Chapter 25A, titled Housing, Moderately Priced, which lays the foundation for the MPDU Program – and Chapter 59, The Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance, which specifies the applicable zones, and sets associated development standards and bonus densities.

The **Montgomery Homeownership Program** is an initiative of the Maryland Mortgage Program in partnership with Montgomery County. It provides eligible homebuyers purchasing in Montgomery County up to \$25,000 in down payment assistance.

This financial support is provided by Montgomery County to help working families and first-time home buyers achieve affordable homeownership in the County. The Maryland Mortgage Program in partnership with the County has helped thousands of families achieve homeownership.

#### **Panel Discussion**

Median home prices in Montgomery County have risen sharply during and after the pandemic. In addition to concerns with rising rental housing costs, affordable and equitable homeownership has become a challenge for many residents of Montgomery County. In light of future policy considerations around affordable and equitable homeownership, today's briefing is designed to provide a foundation for such discussions. Panelists have been asked to discuss financial barriers to homeownership from the perspective of their members.

Attached on ©1 is an outline of the panel discussion including the participant list for each panel. Any data provided by panelists as part of a presentation will be linked to this staff report following the worksession.

<sup>\*</sup>Level I (VISITable) accessibility standards must include: one no-step entrance located at any entry door to the house that is connected to an accessible route; a place to visit on the entry level; a usable powder room or bathroom; a 32-inch clear width interior door.

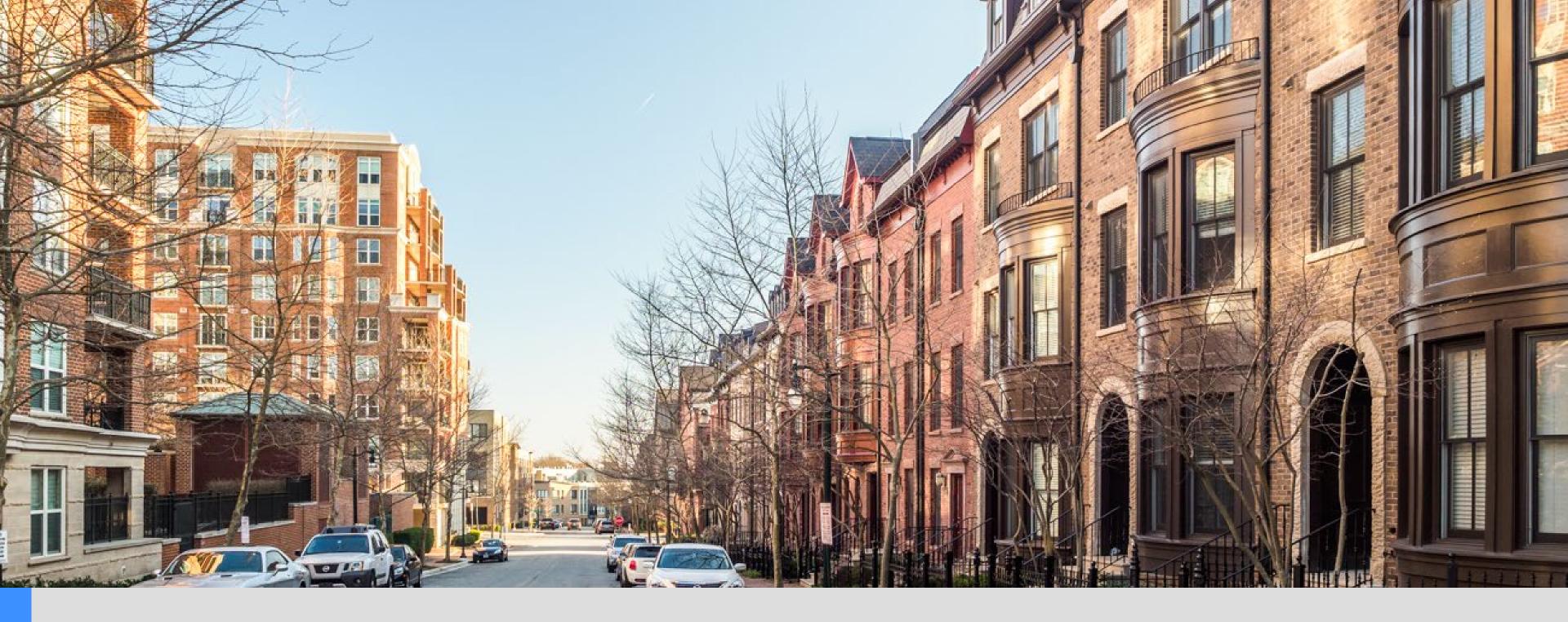
<sup>\*\*</sup> Level II (LIVEable) accessibility standards must include, in addition to all standards as Level I: an interior way of passage from one room to another that can accommodate a wheelchair or other mobility aid; a kitchen that can accommodate a wheelchair or other mobility aid and meets the specification in Section 52-28T of the Montgomery County Code for a usable kitchen; at least one accessible bedroom (either on the entry level or accessible by elevator, life, or stair glide unit); an accessibility-enhanced full bathroom that includes a walk-in or roll-in shower or tub.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current 70% AMI levels for Montgomery County, as of April 19, 2022: \$69,500 for a single-person household; \$79,500 for a two-person household; \$89,500 for a three-person household.

#### Homeownership Equity and Affordability in Montgomery County Planning, Housing & Parks Committee Panel Discussion March 6, 2023 ~ 1:30 pm

#### In-Person Council Office Building 100 Maryland Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Hearing Room Rockville, MD 20850

- I. Welcoming Remarks (Six minutes Two minutes per Committee member)
- II. An Overview of Homeownership in Montgomery County (30 Minutes)
  - A. Jason Sartori, Chief, Countywide Planning and Policy Division, and Lisa Govoni, Housing Planner IV, Montgomery Planning
  - B. LaToya Thomas, Housing Indicator Tool Policy Director, HAND (Virtual)
  - C. (TBD) Homeownership and the Racial Wealth Gap
- III. The Economics of Homeownership in Montgomery County (40 Minutes)
  - A. Jeff Dee, President & CEO, and Sarah Reddinger, Vice President of Community Development, Habitat for Humanity
  - B. Maury Peterson, Executive Director, Rebuilding Together
  - C. Avi Adler, President, GCAAR
  - D. Q&A (10 Minutes)
- IV. Current County Tools for Home Ownership (40 Minutes)
  - A. Mary Gentry, Chief, Division of Housing, and Somer Cross, Manager, Affordable Housing, Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs
  - B. Chelsea Andrews, Executive Director, and Monte Stanford, Director of Mortgage Finance, Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission
  - C. Maddy Ciulu, Director, Single Family Housing Programs, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
  - D. Mary Hunter, Director of Housing Counseling, Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.
  - E. Q&A (10 Minutes)
- V. Takeaways and Next Steps (5-10 minutes)



**Montgomery Planning** 

Countywide Planning & Policy Division

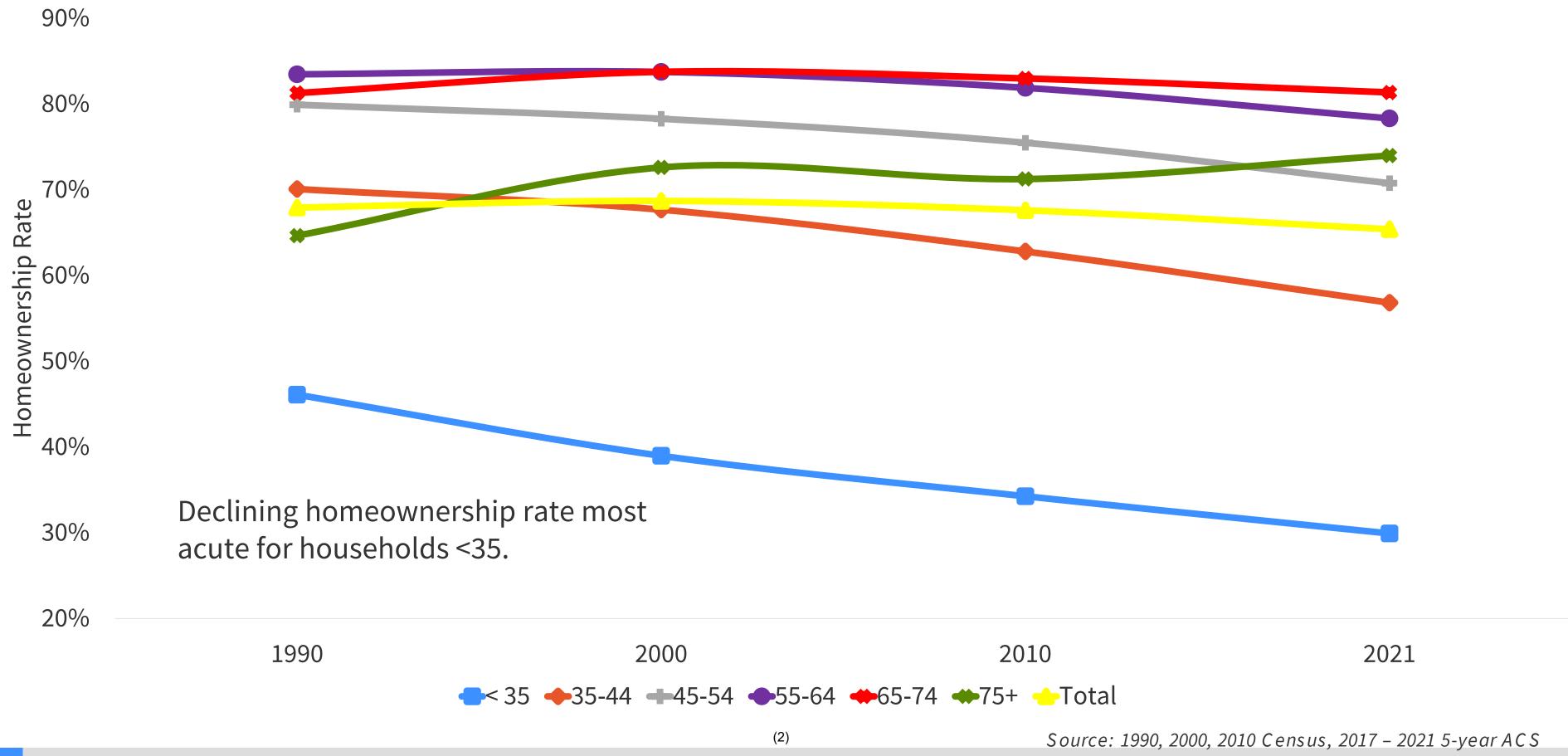
03/06/2023

# Mate of Homeownership

**Montgomery County, MD** 



#### **Homeownership Rates by Age**

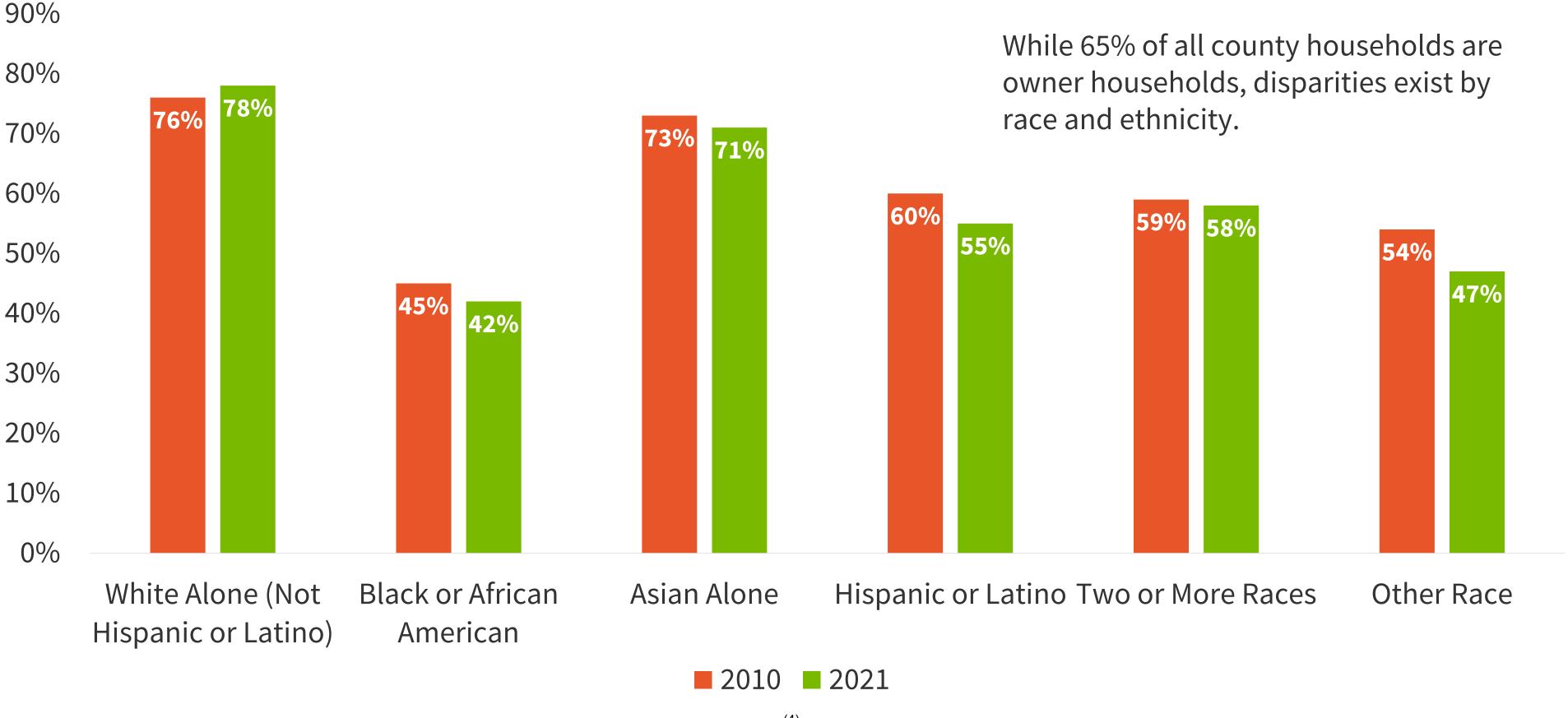


#### Net Change of Number of Owner-Occupied Households

Age of Householder	2010 # of Owner-Occupied Households	2021 # of Owner-Occupied Households	Change
<35	22,870	17,220	(5,650)
35-44	50,144	40,954	(9,190)
45-54	65,845	57,003	(8,842)
55-64	52,774	61,686	8,912
65-74	27,914	44,023	16,109
75+	25,268	29,860	4,592
Total	244,815	250,746	5,931

The county is only adding new owner households on net for householders over 55.

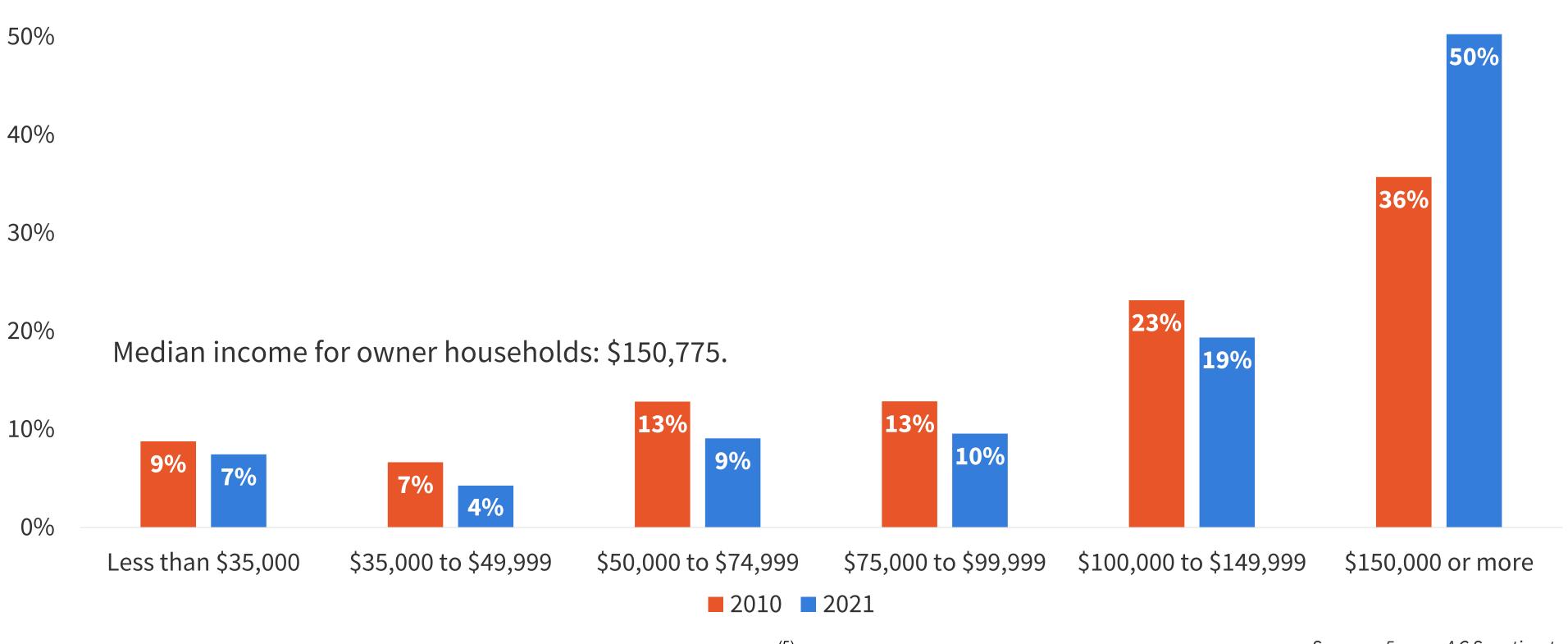
#### Owner Households by Race or Ethnicity





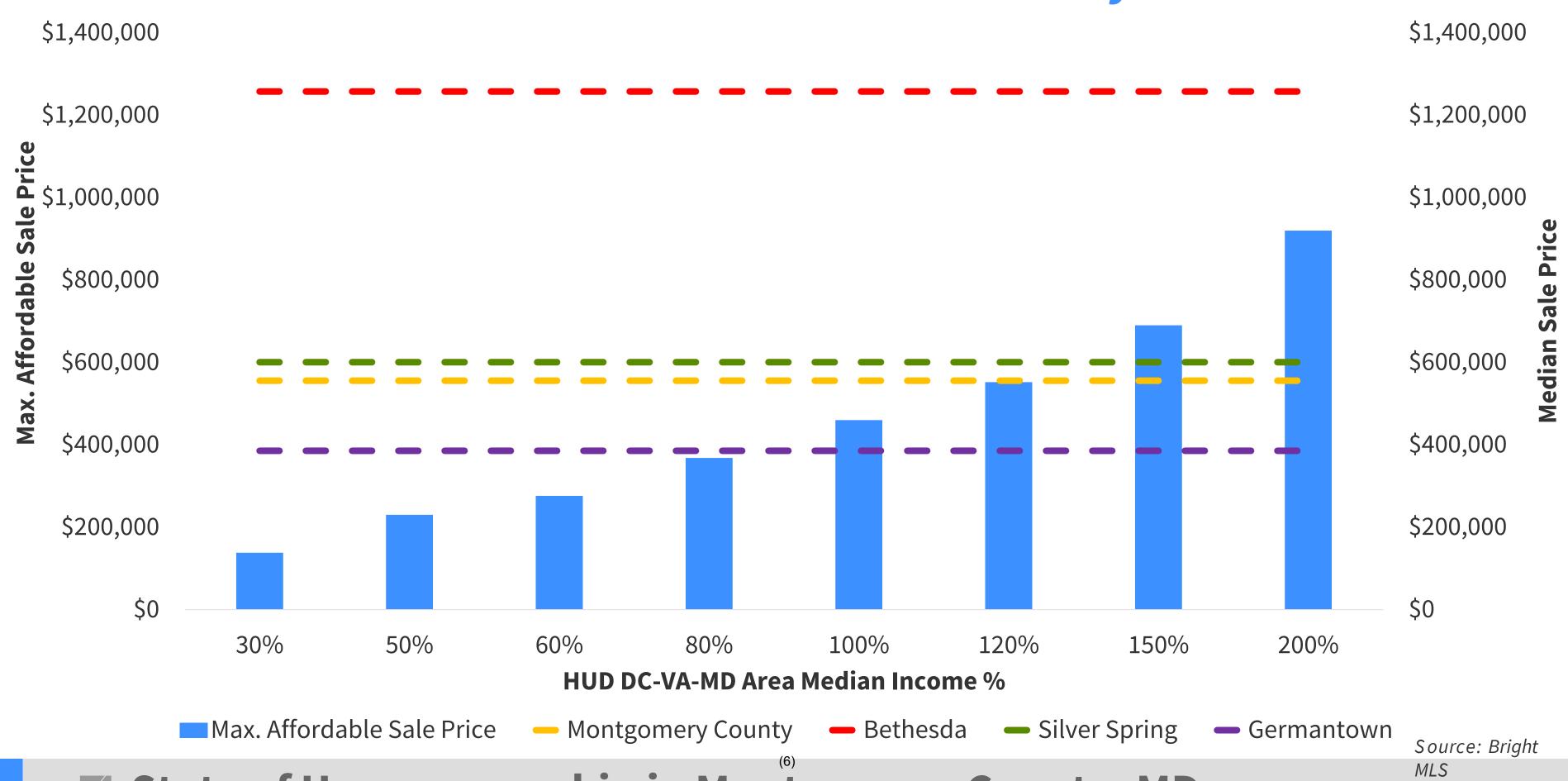
Source: 1-year ACS estima

#### Owner Households by Income Range

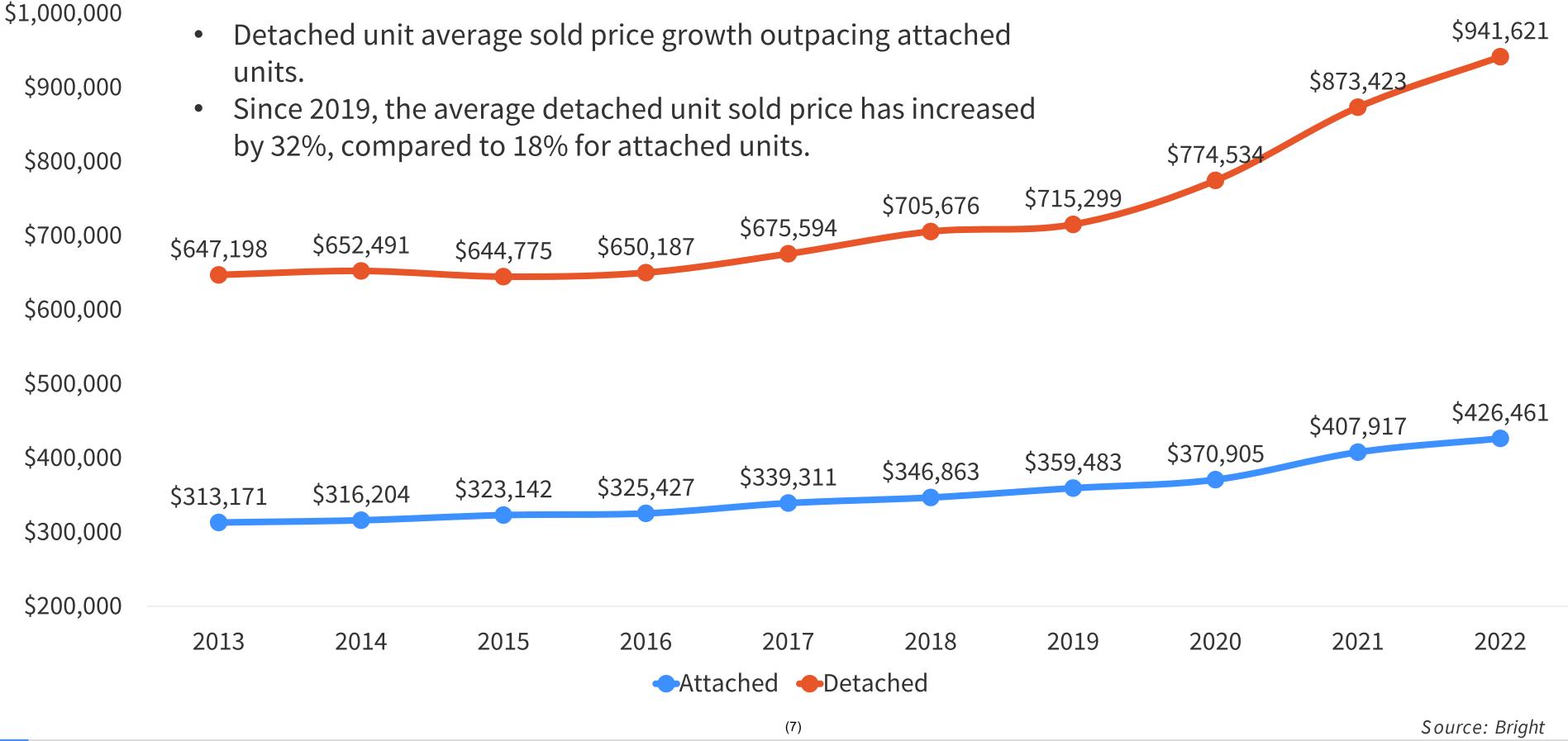


60%

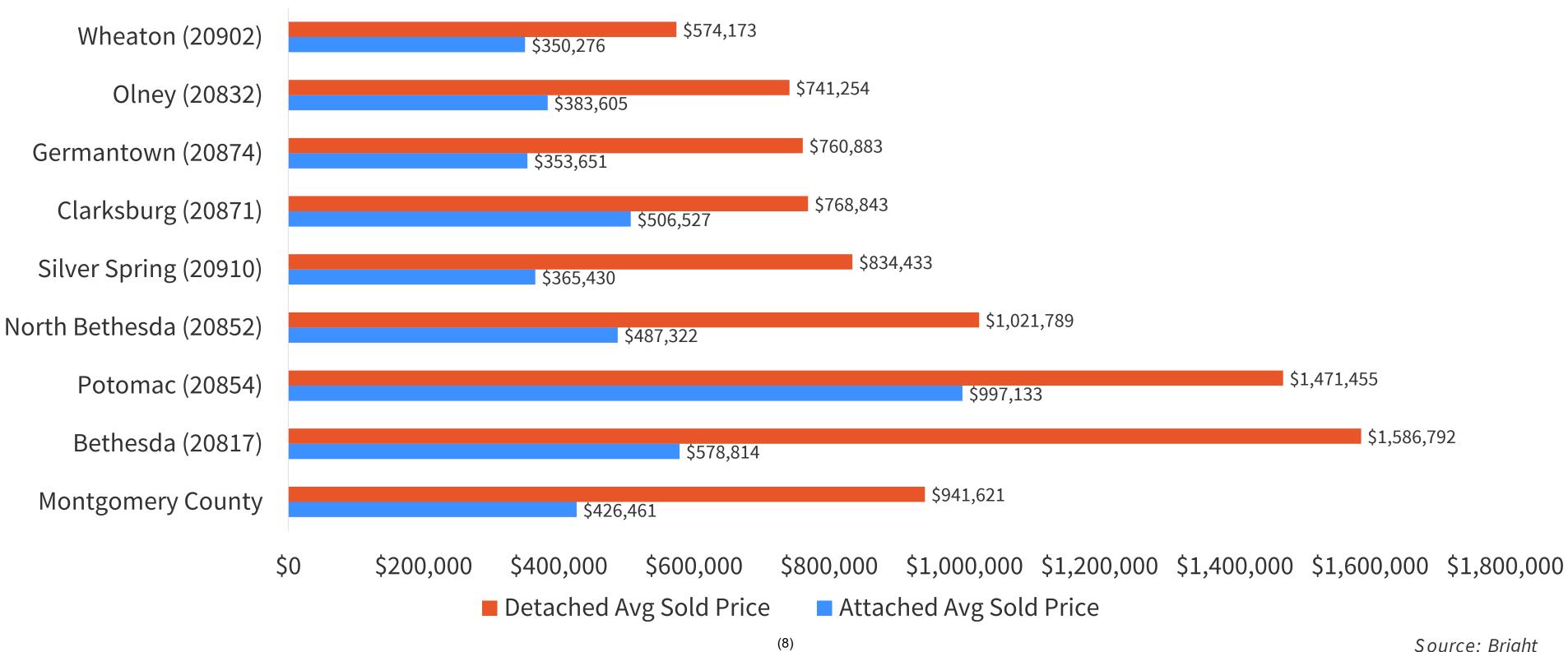
#### Maximum Affordable Sale Price by AMI



#### **Average Sold Price by Type**

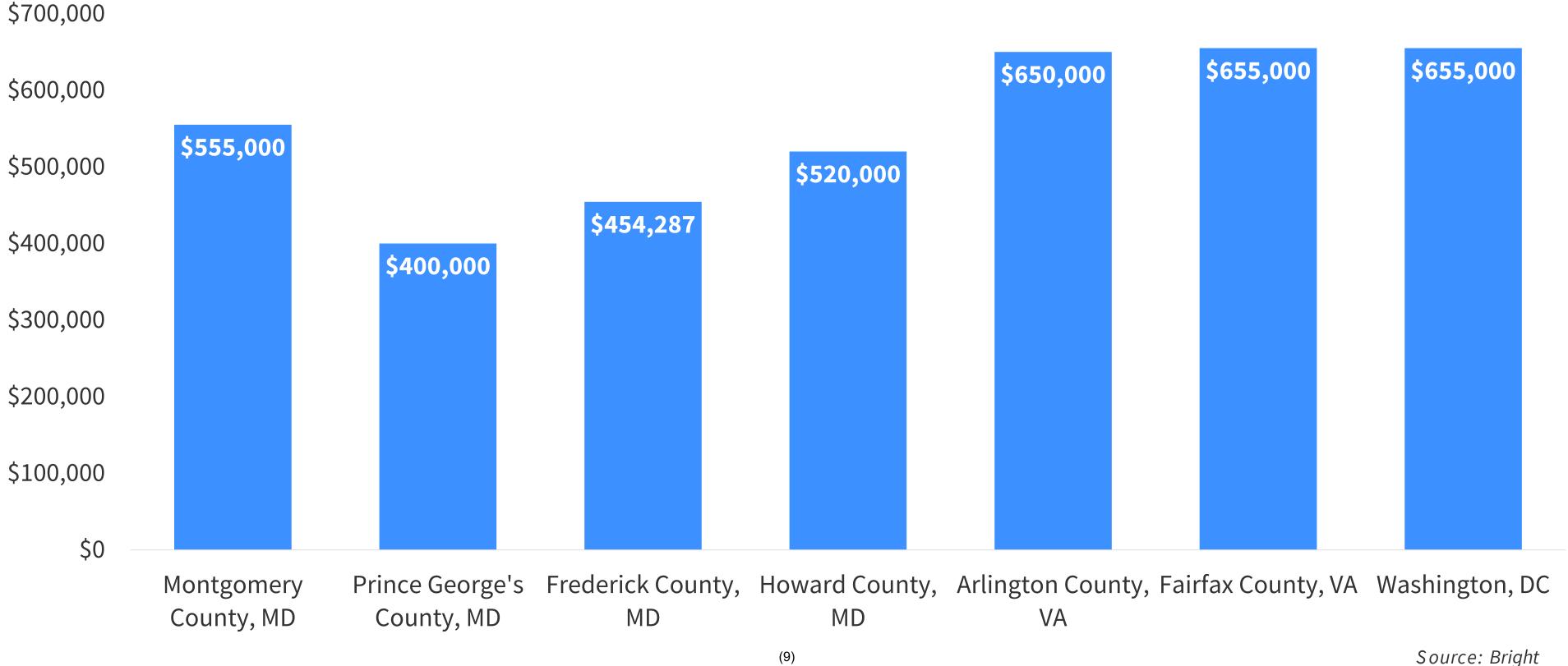


### **Average Sold Price by Type in Submarkets** (2022)





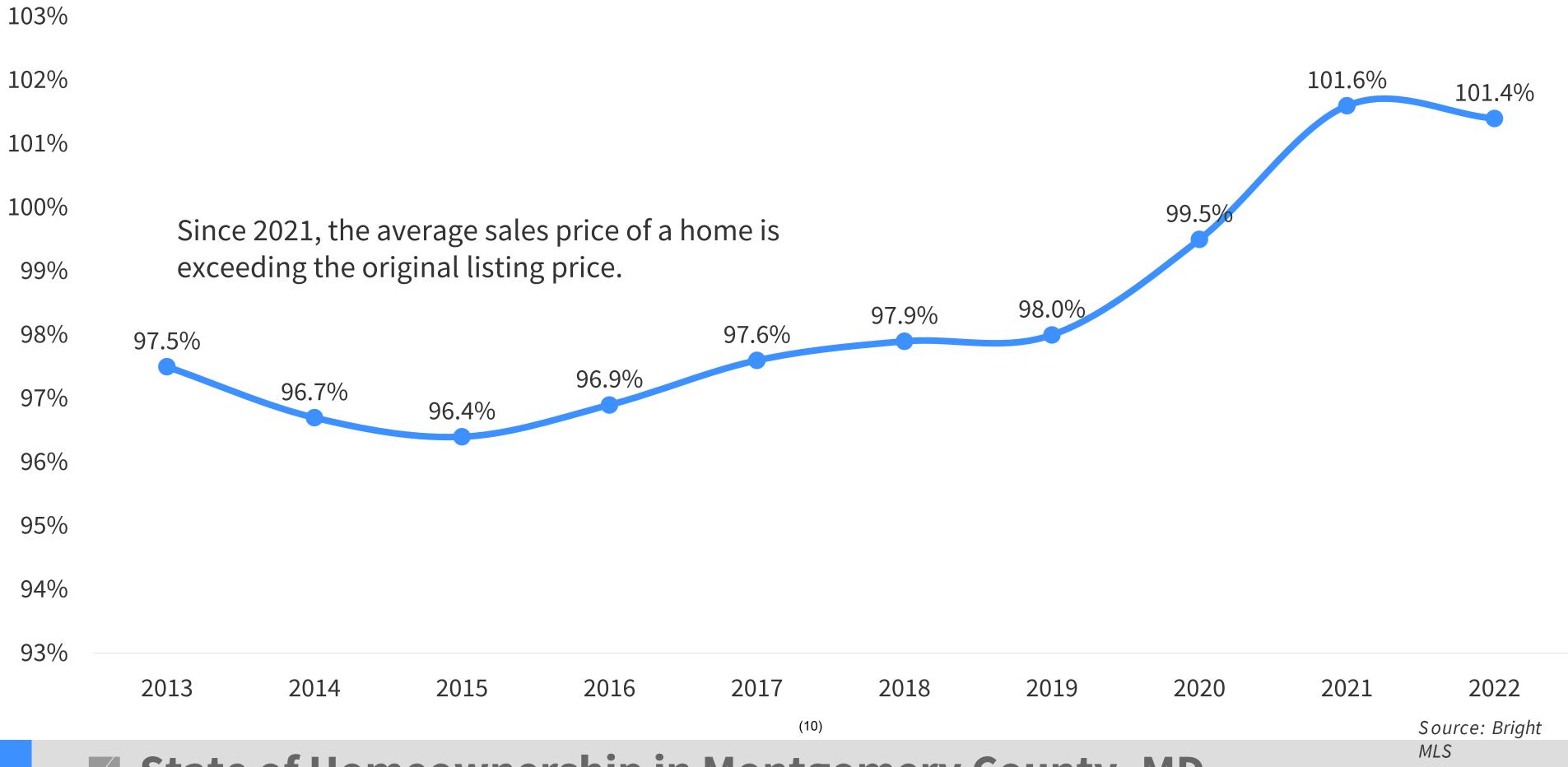
#### Median Sold Price (All Housing Types) by Jurisdiction (2022)





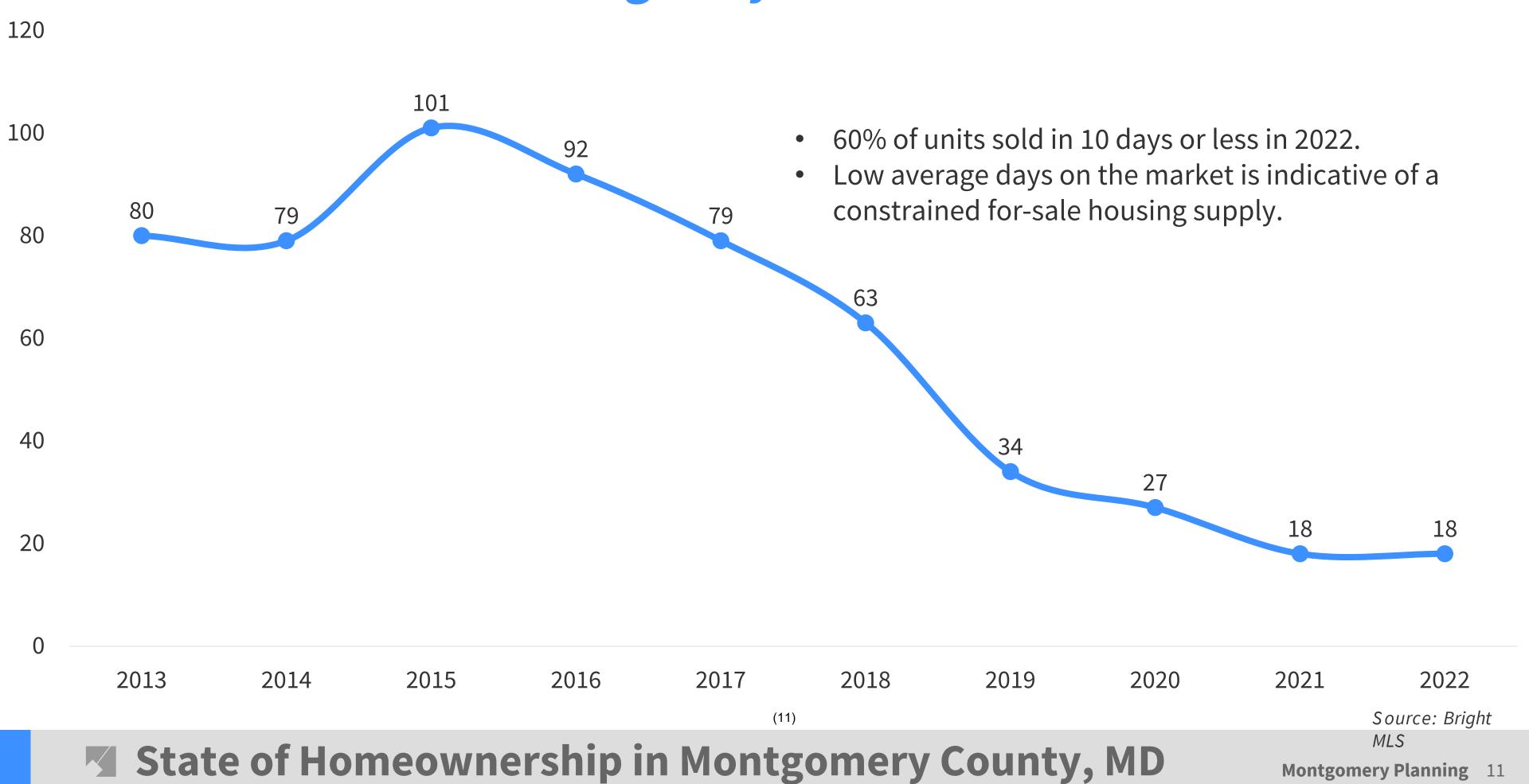
MLS

#### **Average Sales Price to Original Listing Price Ratio**



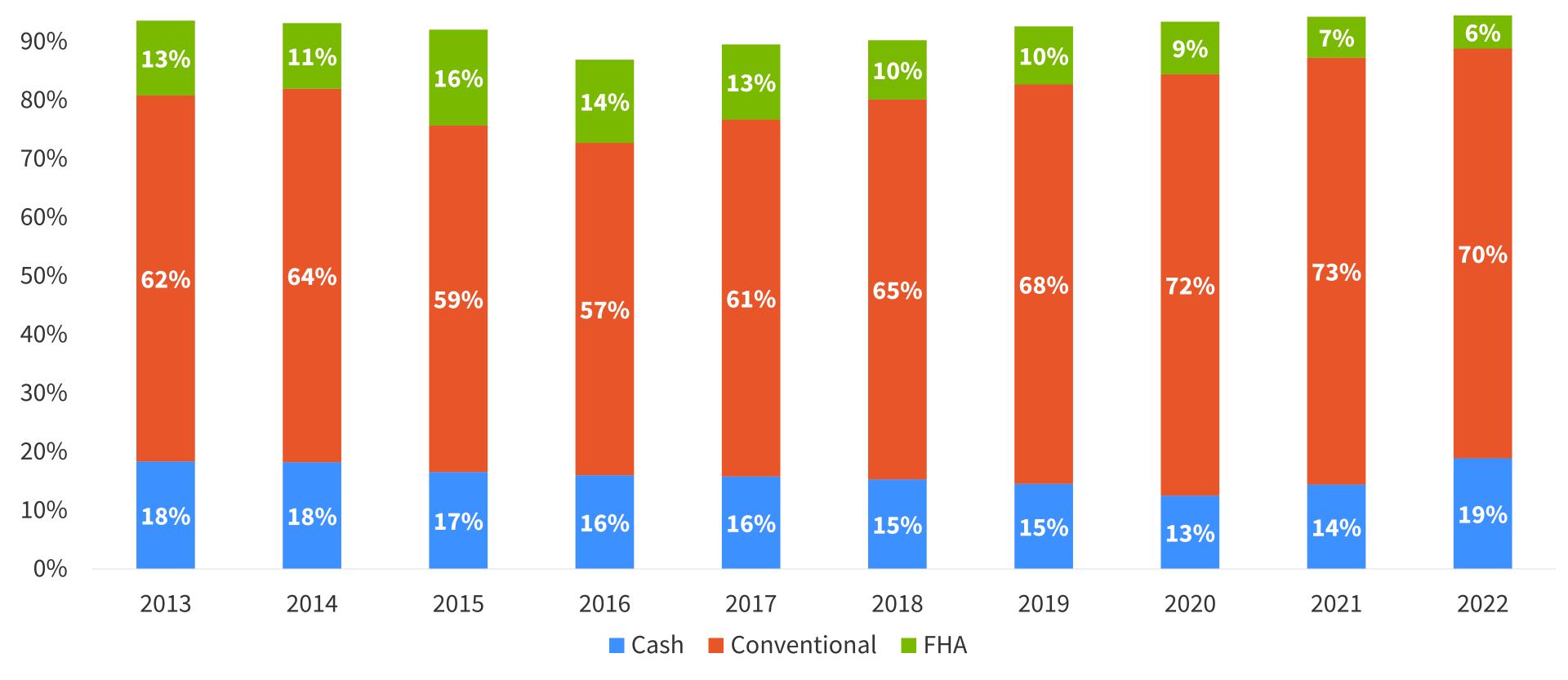


#### **Average Days on Market**



#### **Financing of Sold Units**

FHA loans have become less common in the financing of for-sale units.



(12)



100%

### Thank you!

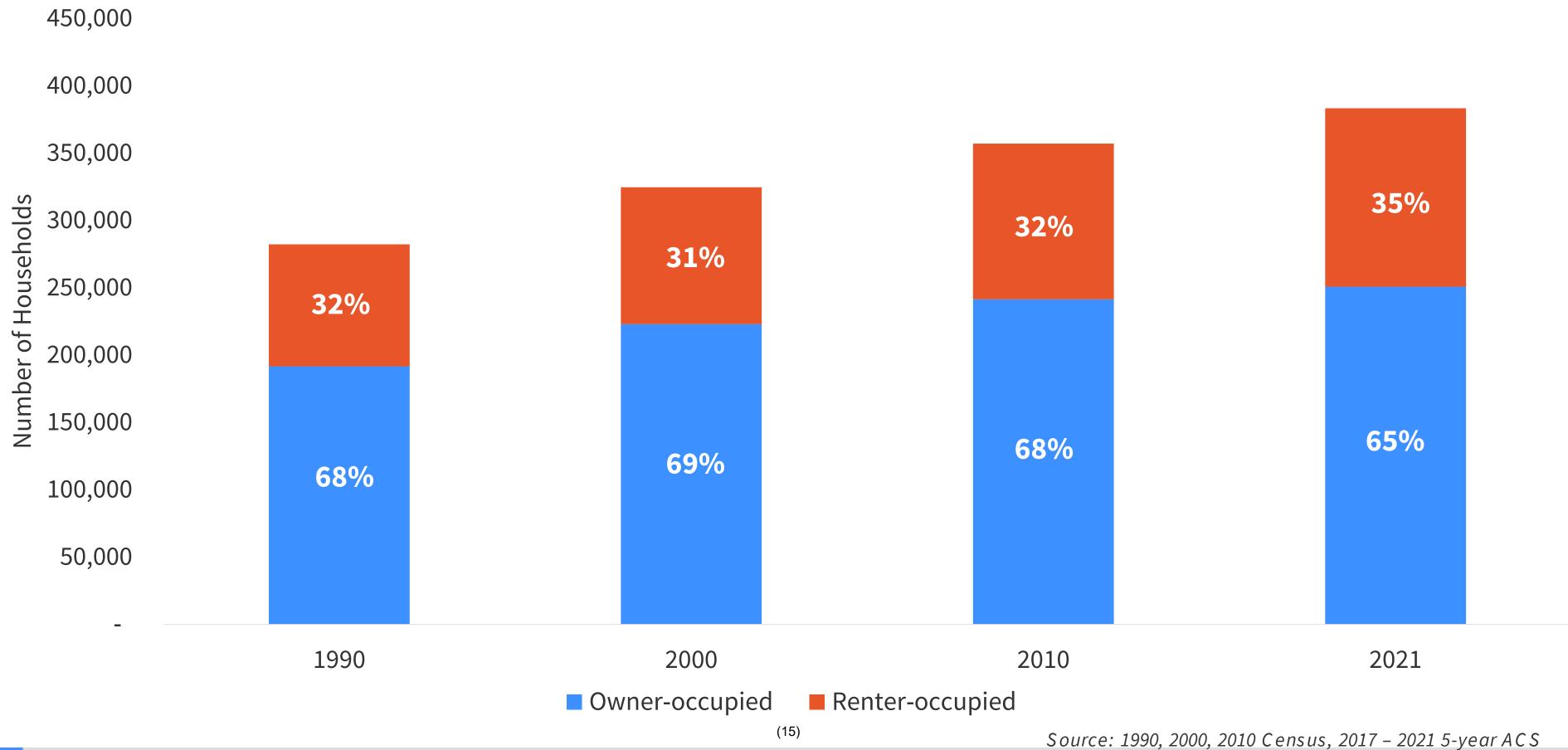
 Contact, Lisa Govoni, Housing Planner IV, Countywide Planning & Policy Division

Lisa.Govoni@montgomeryplanning.org

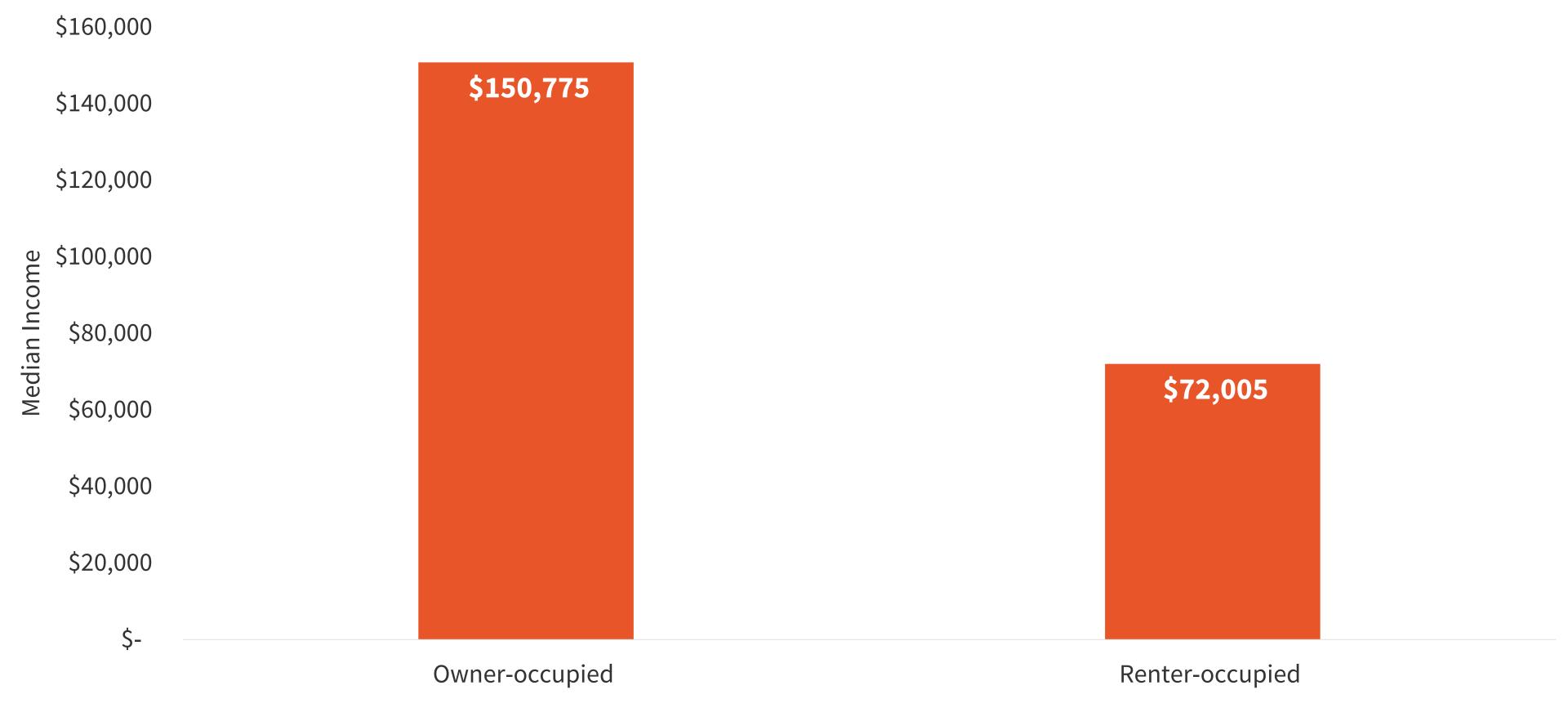
• (301) 650 – 5624

# ADDITIONAL SLIDES

#### **Housing Tenure**



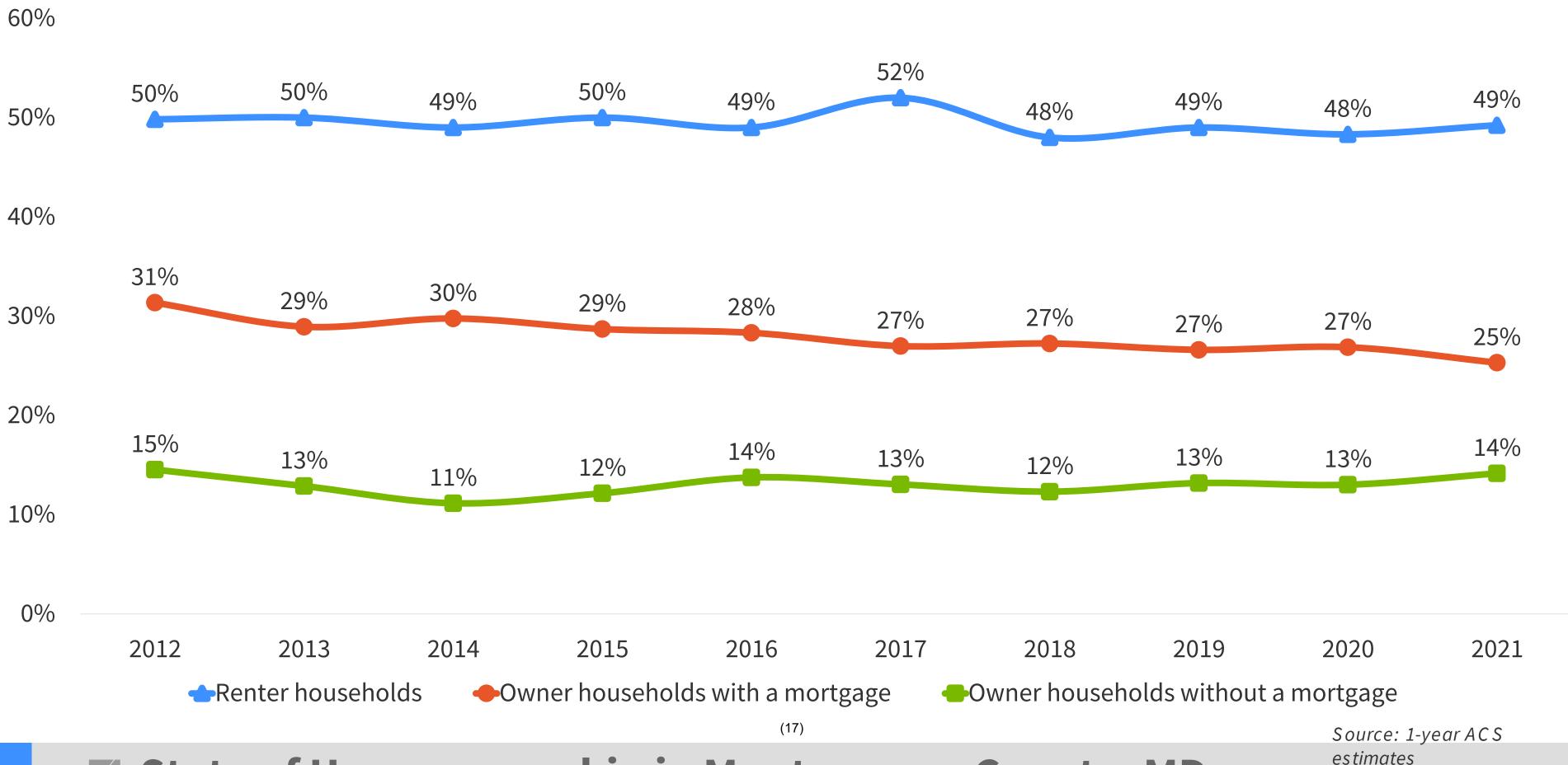
#### **Tenure by Median Income**



(16)

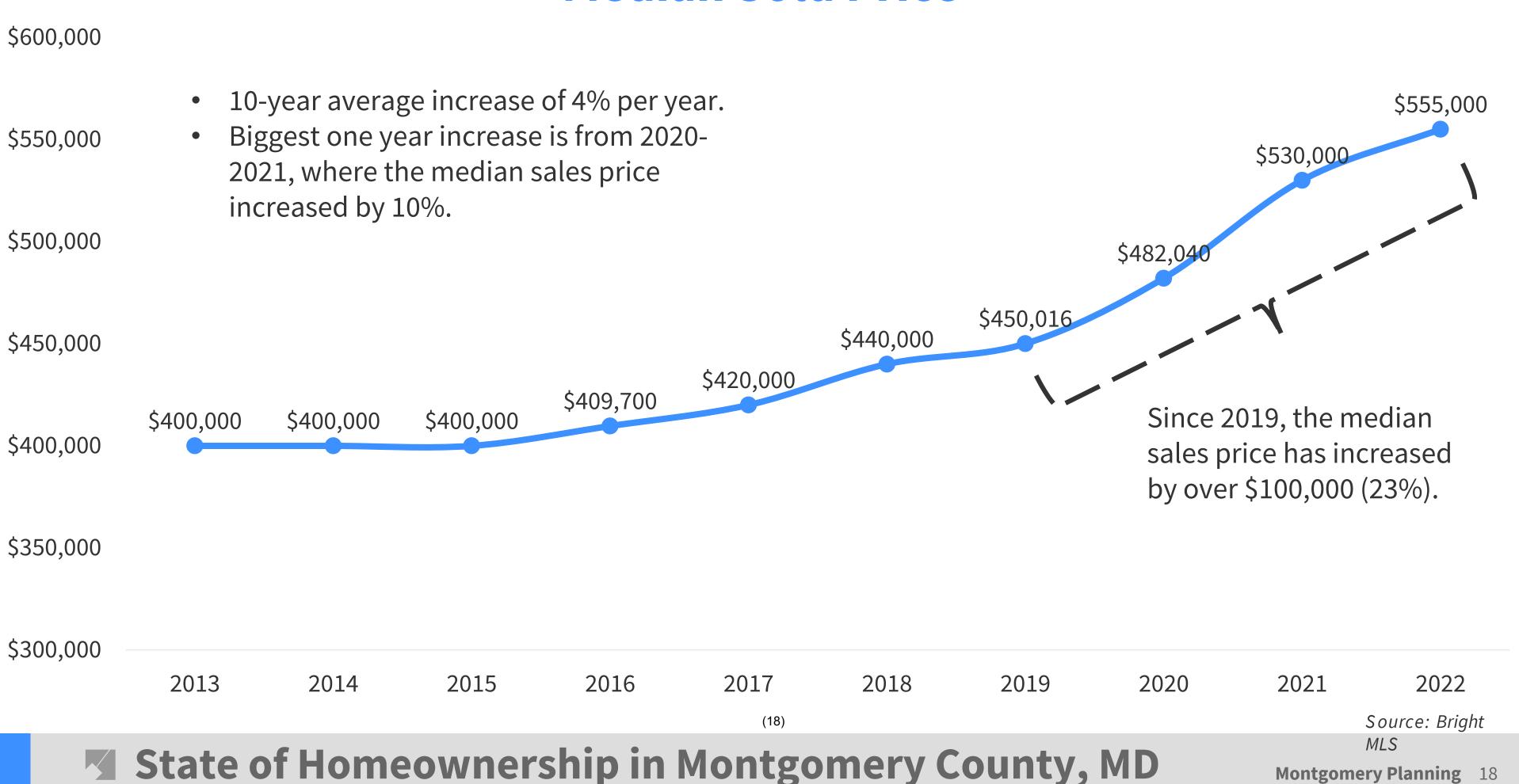
Source: 2017 - 2021 5-year ACS estim

#### Percent of Households Cost-Burdened

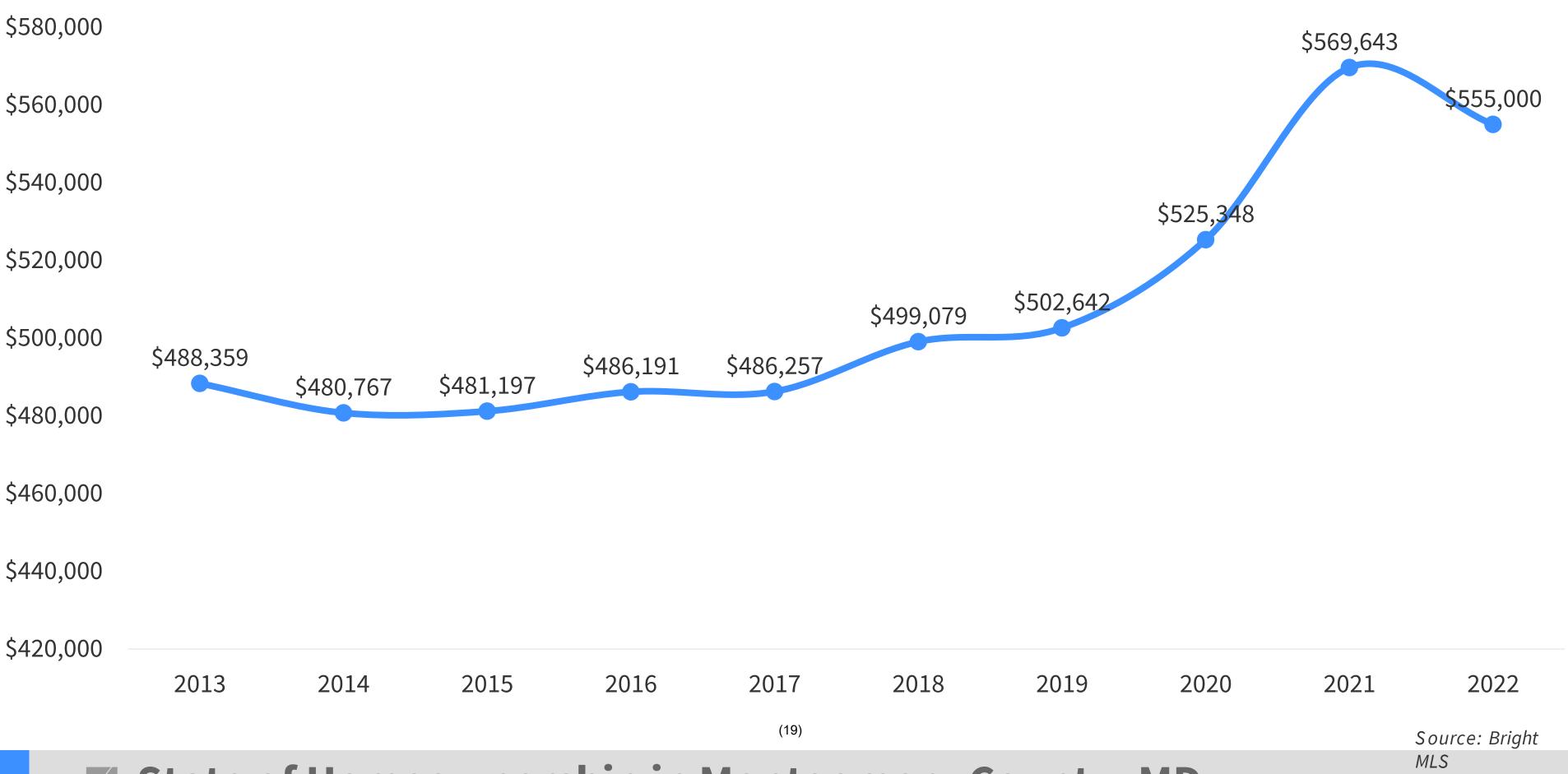




#### **Median Sold Price**

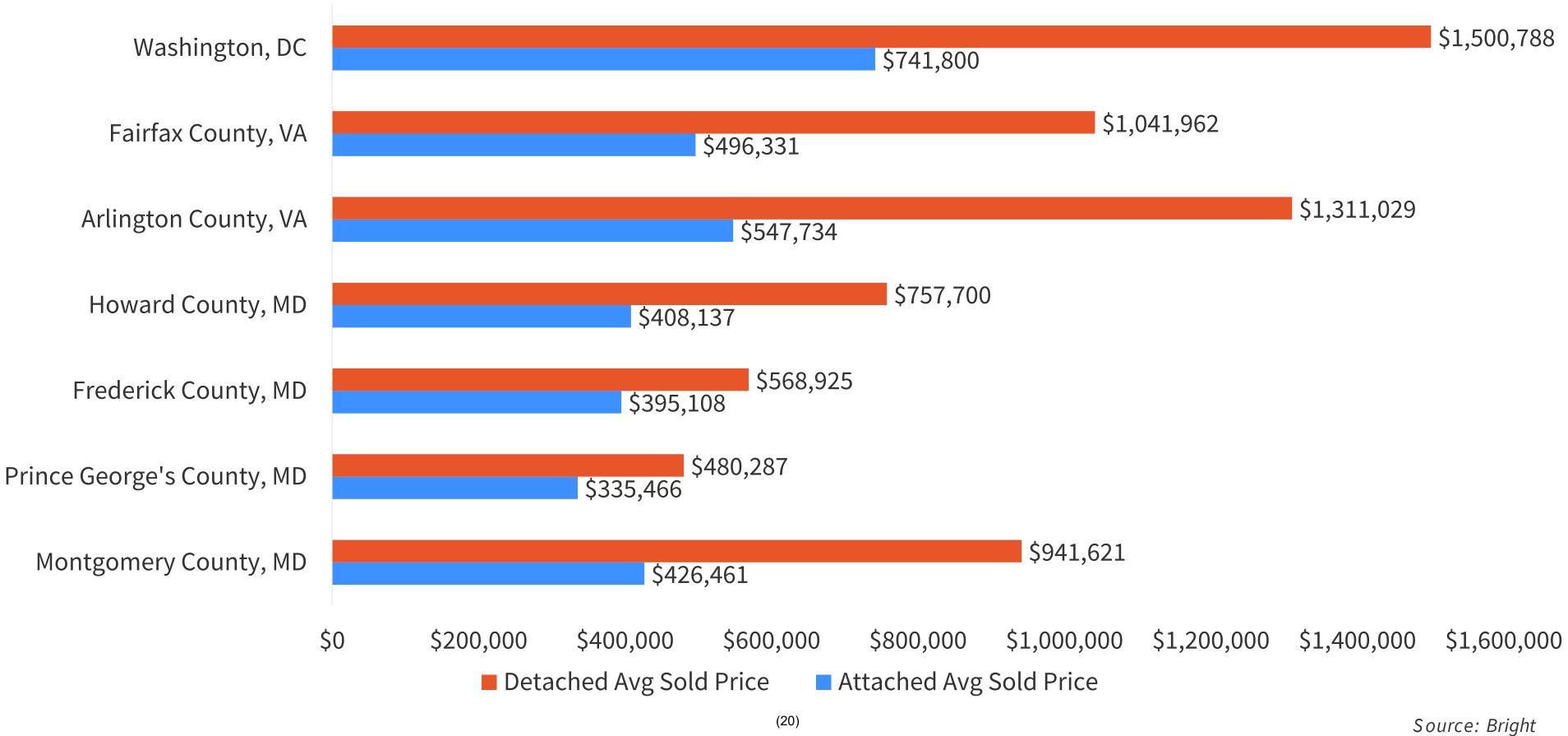


#### Median Sold Price (Inflation Adjusted)



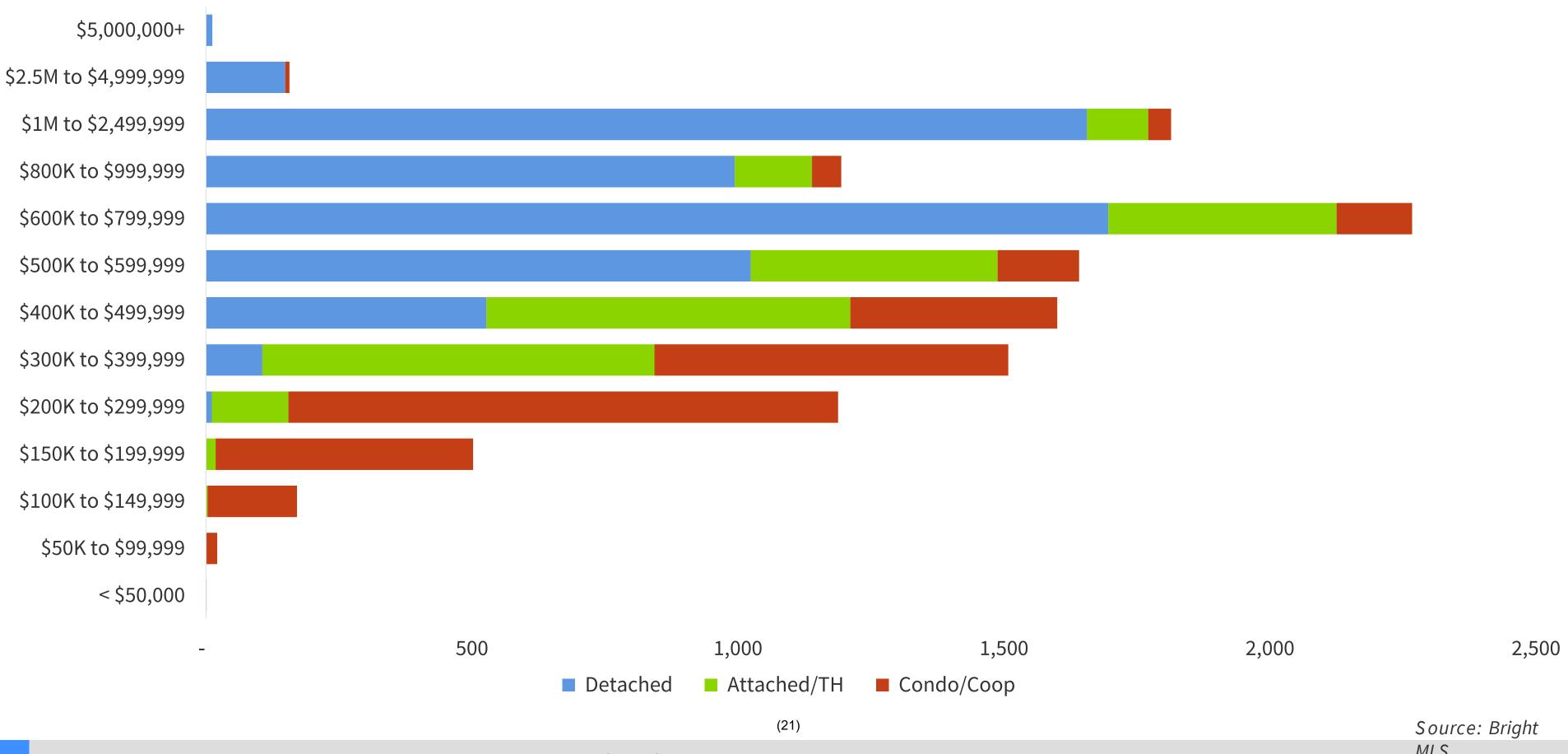


#### **Average Sold Price by Type by Jurisdiction (2022)**





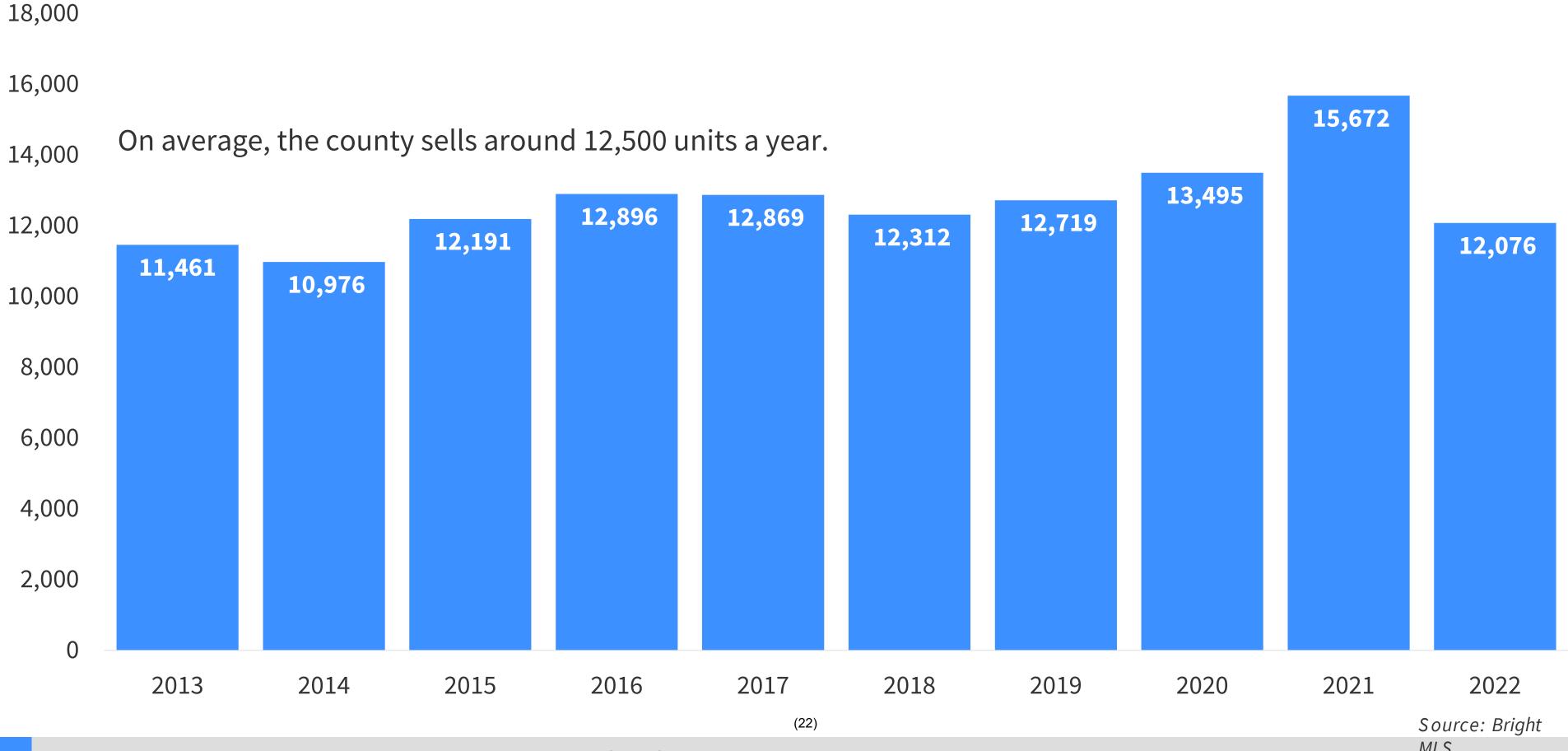
#### **Sold Price by Range (2022)**





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#### **Units Sold By Year**





## Housing Blogs from Planning

- Addressing the housing affordability gap blog:
  - https://montgomeryplanning.org/blog-design/2022/09/addressing-thehousing-affordability-gap/
- Parking lots to livable spaces: Infill development and its impact on housing in Montgomery County
  - <a href="https://montgomeryplanning.org/blog-design/2023/01/parking-lots-to-">https://montgomeryplanning.org/blog-design/2023/01/parking-lots-to-</a> <u>livable-spaces-infill-development-and-its-impact-on-housing-in-</u> montgomery-county/





MARCH 6, 2023

# Regional Homeownership Trends - A Level-Set

# URBAN



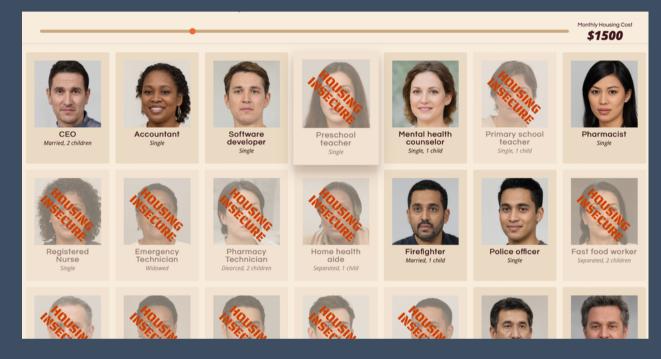


# A Regional Commitment to Affordability

374,000 net new housing units needed between 2015 and 2030, of which 77% should be affordable to middle-income households and below

## The Housing Indicator Tool

- Tool for accountability towards meeting regional housing production goals
- Underscoring what makes a good housing toolkit and how best to deploy in each jurisdiction
- Making the link between housing and racial equity
- Calls to Action for ALL Sectors





hit.handhousing.org

## Defining "Affordable Housing"

HOUSING THAT IS CONSIDERED "AFFORDABLE" IS GENERALLY DEFINED AS "HOUSING ON WHICH THE OCCUPANT IS PAYING **NO MORE THAN 30% OF GROSS INCOME** FOR HOUSING COSTS, INCLUDING UTILITIES".

Source: US Department of Housing & Urban Development





Occupation 	Annual Earnings	% Housing Cost  Burdened
Nursing Assistants Food Service Workers	Less than \$32,600	84%
Counselors Postal Clerks	\$32.600 - \$54,300	68%
Firefighter Graphic Designers	\$54,300 - \$70,150	47%
Registered Nurses Teachers	\$70,150 - \$130,320	19%
HR Manager Attorneys	\$130,320 - \$217,200	5%
Physicians CEOS	More than \$217,000	1%

Housing affordability impacts us ALL, but particularly those we rely on to meet our daily needs.

# WHATIS THE HOUSING CONTINUUM?







# Housing to meet your needs at a specific point in time...for example:

Rent vs. Own

Market-Rate or Income-Restricted

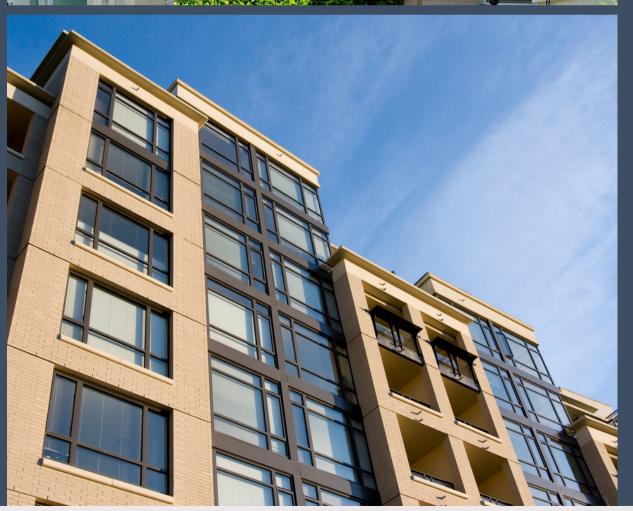
Shared Housing vs. Single Occupant Housing

Housing for a Single Person vs. Housing for a Family

Independent Living vs. Living with Supportive Services

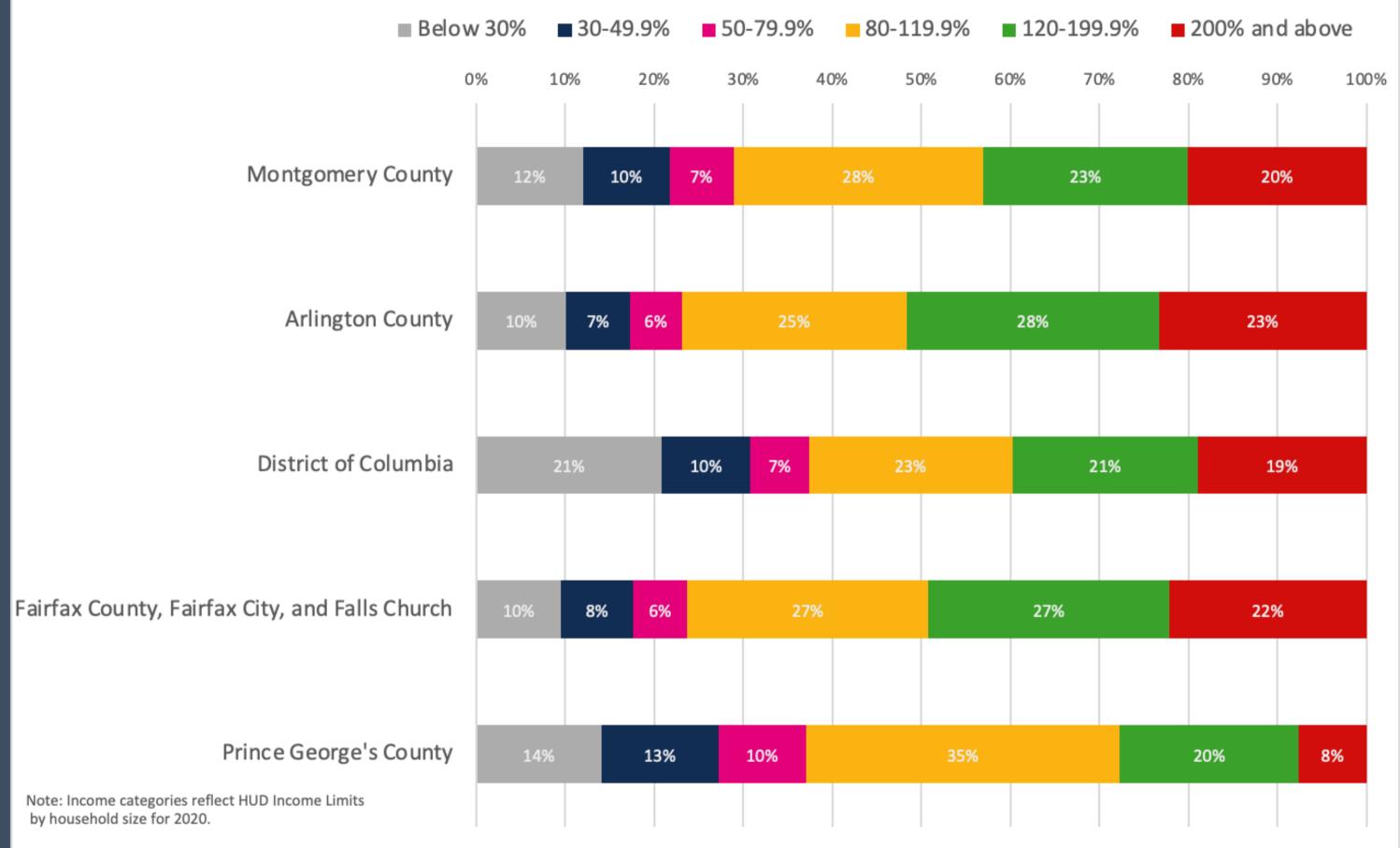
Spaces and services for the Un- and Under-Housed





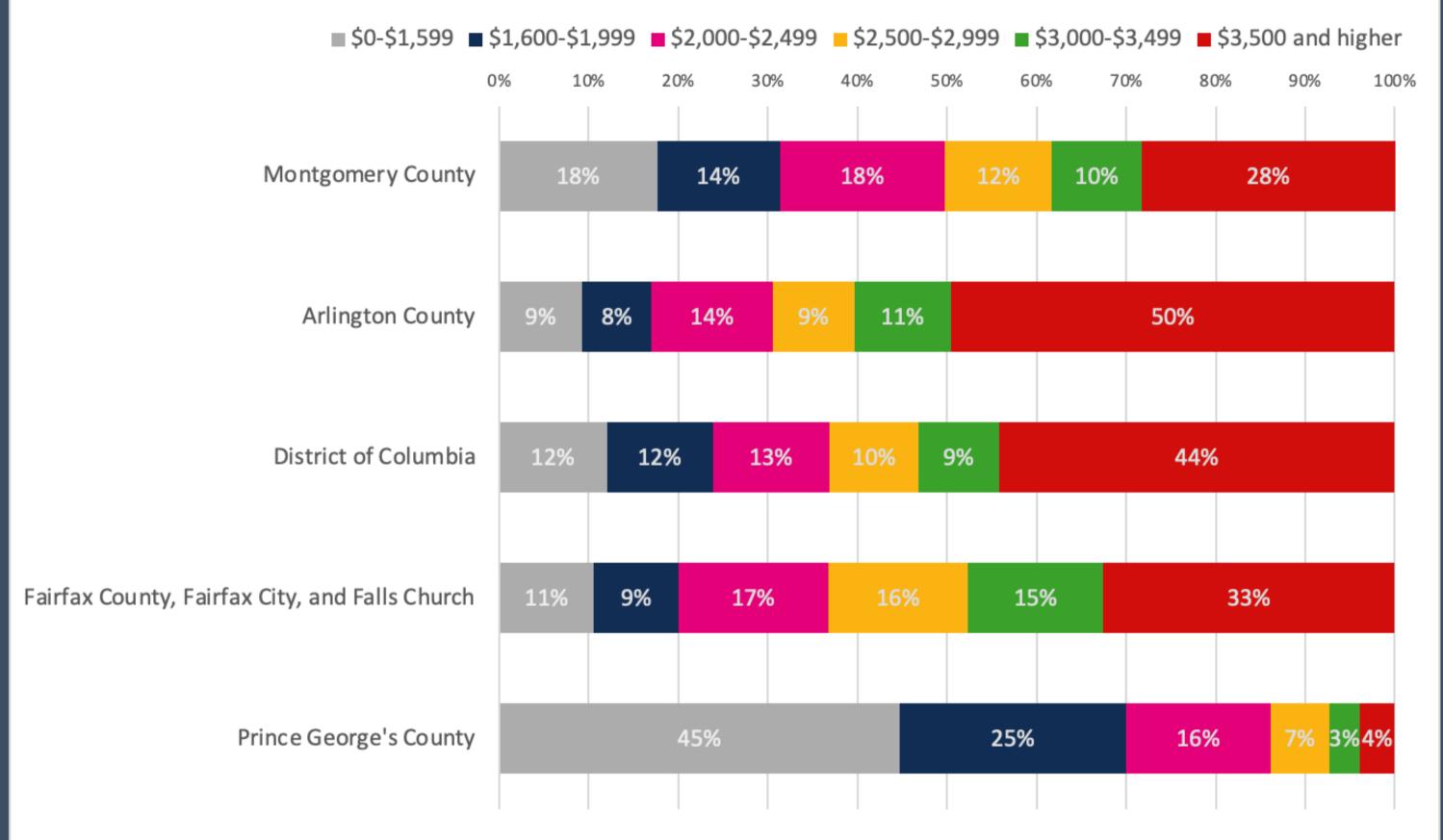
# Homeownership Trends in the Region

### Household Income: Distribution of households by income level relative to the area median income, 2016-20



09

Homeowner Housing Supply by Cost: Owner housing units by monthly housing cost for a first-time homebuyer, 2016-20



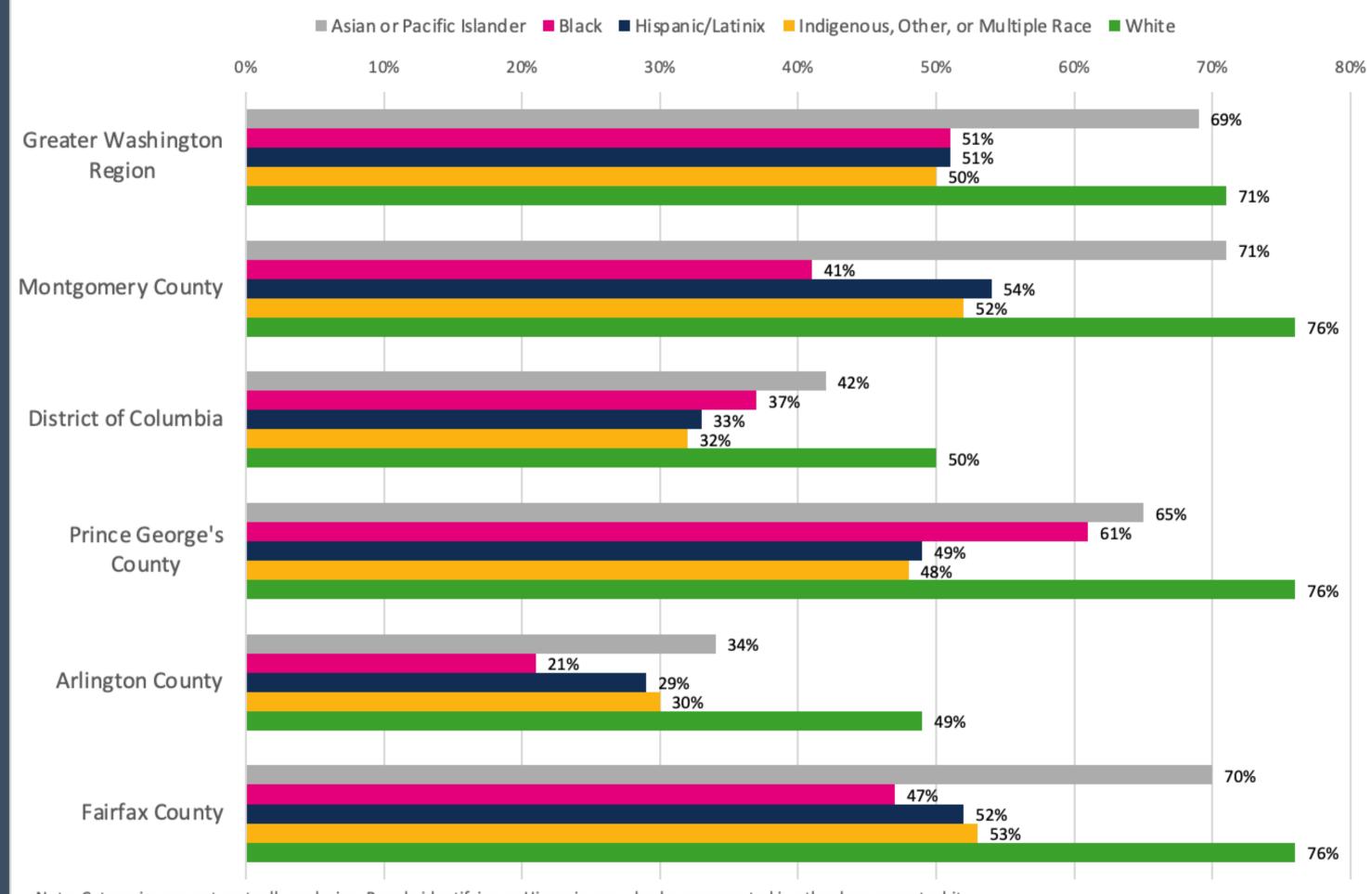
Note: Costs for owner housing were calculated as the monthly payment for a 30-year fixed rate mortgage for 90 percent of the market value to the unit, along with estimates of other monthly costs including taxes, utilities, and fees.

(33)

Source: Urban Institute analysis of American CommunitySurvey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)



#### Homeowner by Race and Ethnicity, 2016-20



Note: Categories are not mutually exclusive. People identifying as Hispanic may also be represented in other bars except white. Source: Urban Institute analysis of the American Community Survey (34)

# EXPANDING AND PRESERVING ACCESS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

#### **RACIAL EQUITY**

How can we use homeownership-focused policies and initiatives to increase equitable opportunities and outcomes for historically marginalized groups?

### SUPPORTING LONGTIME OWNERS

How do we ensure the moderate income homeowners and older homeowners are able to keep and maintain their homes and during hot housing markets?

#### PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY

How can create pathways for economic mobility and stability through the expansion of homeownership?

### WHAT DOES HOMEOWNERSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Owning a single-family detached home is not the only path to homeownership. What other models (e.g. cooperatives, land trusts) make sense to explore in order to increase access and supply?

### **Contact Information**

LaToya Thomas

Brick & Story

latoya@brickandstory.com

brickandstory.com

### **Relevant Links**

Housing Indicator Tool hit.handhousing.org

**HAND**handhousing.org

**Urban Institute** 

urban.org

Thank You



- Habitat for Humanity International Since 1976
  - Spiritual Godfather Clarence Jordan
- Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland
  - Founded in 1982
  - **501(c)(3)**
  - Licensed General Contractor
  - Lender

### **Homeownership Programs**

- Home Purchase
  - New Construction
  - Rehabilitation
- ■Home Preservation
  - Repair
  - Weatherization



(38)

#### **New Construction**



### Rehabilitation



### **Home Purchase Program**

- Habitat builds or rehabs a home
- Habitat selects buyers while the homes are being built
- Buyers complete "sweat equity"
- Home is completed and sold
- Habitat provides an affordable mortgage
- Homeowner pays mortgage



### **Cost of Condo Development**

24 Condo Units @ Randolph Road	
(Per Unit Cost)	
Costs	
Site Work/Construction	\$269,000
Arch/Eng/Attorney	\$34,000
Soft Costs	\$33,000
Contingency	\$20,000
Total Per Unit	\$356,000
Total Condo Development Cost	\$8,547,000

\*Costs do not include land as it was free\*

### **Condo Financing & Subsidy by Income Level**

2 Bedrooms - 30% AMI		
Funding Sources		
MAHT	\$ 6,000	
In-Kind	\$ 5,000	
Closing Cost Assist.	\$ 10,000	
Assignment of Mortgage	\$ 132,000	
Additional Fundraising	\$ 203,000	
Total	\$ 356,000	

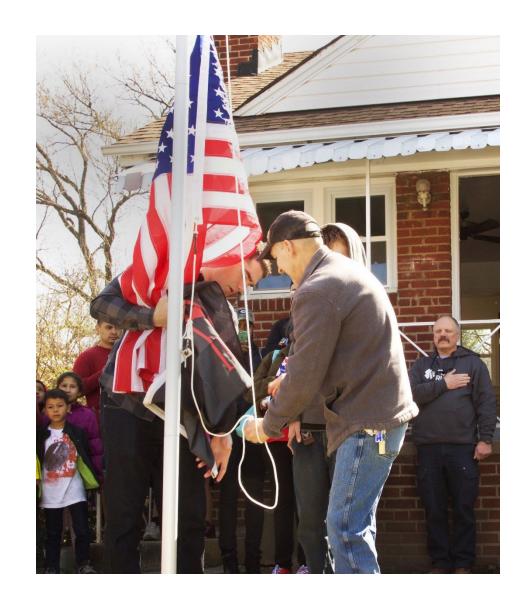
\$ 165,000	
\$ 458	
\$ 140	
\$ 40	
\$ 150	
\$ 788	
\$ 2,628	
\$ 31,533	7
\$ \$	\$ 458 \$ 140 \$ 40 \$ 150 \$ 788 \$ 2,628

### **Opportunities**

- Expanded Down Payment Assistance Programs
- Creative Construction Financing Tools with Longer terms
- Expanded Property Tax Credits for Lower Income Owners
- Community Land Trusts & Shared Equity/Appreciation Models

#### **Home Preservation Goals**

- Preserve existing affordable housing
- Make homes healthier, safer, energy efficient and accessible
- Allow older adults to age in place
- Ensure homes can accommodate individuals with disabilities
- Improve pride, comfort, mental health and well being
- Preserve generational wealth



### **Client Snapshot**

- Repair programs are always over subscribed
  - More than 1,600 homes on inquiry list
- FY23 Clients in Process
  - 95 households in process
  - Average household income \$40K
  - Average 2.3 household members
  - 57 female heads of household
  - 70 older adults
  - 64 children
  - 35 individuals with disabilities

<sup>\*</sup>Figures include Habitat's entire service area

### **Home Preservation Funding**

- Habitat administers the County's MCEEP program & newly launched Design for Life Program (in partnership with Rebuilding Together)
- Leverage Government & Private Funding
  - Montgomery County Council Grant
  - Maryland Grants (MEA & NED)
  - HUD Grant (VHRM)
  - Lowe's, Home Depot, Adventist, Marriott, MGM, etc.
- Roughly \$1M invested in next year





### Our Mission

### Repairing Homes, Revitalizing Communities, Rebuilding Lives.

Since our founding in 1990, RTMC has provided free critical home repairs and accessibility modifications to help income-qualifying homeowners remain safely and independently in their homes. We partner with local volunteers, businesses, and contractors in the community to provide our services. To date, RTMC has helped more than 2,800 vulnerable and galvanized 50,000 community volunteers in our neighborhelping-neighbor approach.



### Safe & Healthy Homes For All

- Critical home repairs for income-qualifying homeowners that promote safe and healthy homes
- Common repair areas
  - Accessibility -grab bars, tub cuts, comfort height toilets, handrails, and ramps
  - Plumbing -leak fixes and fixture replacement
  - ► HVAC -replacements and repairs
  - Fire Safety -fire extinguishers, smoke and CO2 alarms
  - Weatherization -insulation, duct sealing, heating and cooling system repairs/updates, lighting retrofit, window and door replacement

Number of People in Home	Total Income
1	\$49,850
2	\$56,950
3	\$64,050
4	\$71,150
5	\$76,850
6	\$82,550
7	\$88,250
8	\$93,950

### Safe and Healthy Home Qualifying Guidelines

- Homeowners must own and live in the home that will be repaired
- Total household income must be within 50% of the area median income payments
- Homeowners should remain in their home for at least two years following the completion of repairs
- Homeowners must not own more than one property
- Applicant's home equity value must be under \$400,000
- All members of the household who are eligible must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, except for those with documented medical exemptions or exterior repairs only



### Community Revitalization Partnerships

- Improving the health and safety of the broader community
  - Invest in the community by partnering with other local non-profits to repair community spaces such as shelters, permanent housing structures, and donation centers
- Past partnerships include
  - Housing Unlimited, Interfaith Works, Stepping Stones Shelter, Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless and many more

### Design for Life

 Goal of making a home more accessible, visitable, and livable for people over 65 or physically disabled

\$10,000 for a home with a resident 65+ living with 80% AMI

\$20,000 for a home with a disabled resident living with 50% AMI

Working in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity and DHCA for consistent pricing and scopes of work

Important for our program

► 62% of homes served last year had an elderly resident

► 44% of homes served last year had a disabled resident



### Design for Life in Action

- ► Mrs. T a 91-year-old homeowner living with her disabled daughter Ms. S, came to us needing accessibility modifications to make their house easier and safer to move around in. It had become difficult to enter and exit their home, so they were becoming isolated. Also, the bathroom was becoming dangerous and hard to navigate.
- ► They are receiving an aluminum ramp with handrail at front entrance, heavy duty handrails on interior stairs, accessible shower modifications, and grab bars in bathrooms
- ► Work in other homes will range from lowering kitchen counters for wheelchair access to stairlifts and walk-in showers.



### Our Impacts

#### Injury Reduction

- Reducing fall risk is essential to making the home safer for older adults
- ▶ 7 in 10 homeowners who received repairs reported low or no chance of falling
- Independence
  - Improved quality of life for those with disabilities
  - 9 in 10 homeowners who received repairs now plan to age in place
- Pride and Community
  - Empowering homeowners with the knowledge to maintain a safe and healthy home
  - Bringing community interaction to isolated homeowners

### Interested Homeowners - The Process

Step 1: Application submitted for repair services

 Option of paper application or online application, both found on our website Step 2: Initial home assessment (A1)

 After application approval, homeowner is contacted to schedule an A1 with the program team Step 3: Scope of work created and agreed to by RTMC and homeowner

Step 4: Contractor or volunteer(s) assigned to the home contact homeowner to begin repairs

Step 5: Repair work is completed and assessed by our staff

Step 6: Close out letter is delivered, and we say our goodbyes

### **Contact Us**

9

18225-A Flower Hill Way Gaithersburg, MD 20879



Phone: 301.947.9400



Fax: 301.947.9411



Email: info@rebuildingtogethermc.org





## Barriers to Homeownership in Montgomery County

Avi Adler, 2023 GCAAR President

### State of Housing in Maryland Poll

- Maryland REALTORS® commissioned a poll in January 2023. Here are some of the top-line results:
  - ► Three-quarters of Maryland voters feel that the cost to buy a house or rent an apartment in their part of the state is too high an increase of 19 points since 2020.
  - About half personally feel at least some financial strain from the amount they pay in rent or mortgage each month; 25% say housing costs are a significant financial strain on their budget.
  - ► There is a sizeable increase in the percentage of Maryland voters who say there is too little housing available to buy or rent for those with moderate incomes, younger people and those who are just getting started in their careers.
  - ► Two-thirds feel that people of color face different, increased challenges when it comes to finding quality, affordable housing in their part of Maryland.

Source: Maryland - State of Housing, Jan. 2023, American Strategies



### Financial & Market Factors Affecting Homebuyers

Five main obstacles driving down the ability to buy a home in Montgomery County:



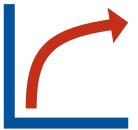
Rising Housing Prices



Lack of Inventory



Climbing Mortgage Rates



Slowing Wage Growth



**More Debt** 



### Montgomery County Residential Real Estate Market Stats

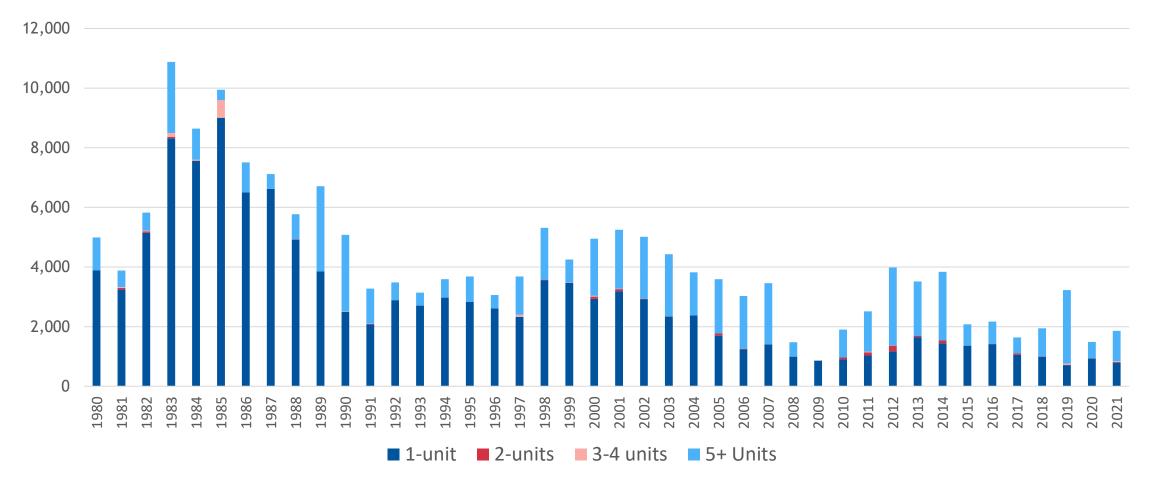
- ➤ 2022 median home sales price was \$555,000.
  - ➤ January 2023 median sold price was \$514,990, up 6% from January 2022 and 9.5% from the 5-year average.
- Active listings are up 40% from January 2022 but down 30% from the 5-year average.
- National Median Sales Price increase vs Montgomery County's increases. 5 years?





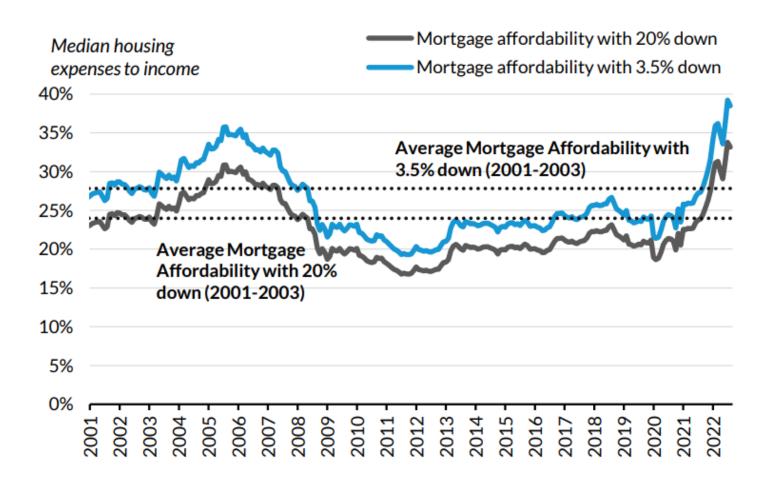


### Montgomery County Building Permits for New Housing



Source: Montgomery County Planning Board

### Mortgage Rates Creating Barriers to Market Entry



30-year fixed-rate mortgage remains at over 6.8%,
 a 20-year high.

With a 20% down payment, the share of national median income needed for the monthly mortgage payment is over 32%.

Source: Urban Institute



### Earning Potential Hurting First-time Homebuyers

- Area wages and salaries growth in 2022 lagged behind the national average, 4.3% to 5.1%.
  - ➤ Since 2020, the national average for this metric has **nearly doubled** (2.6% to 5.1%). The Washington region has been almost stagnant, going from 3.6% to 4.3%.
- ▶ Of the 15 major metropolitan areas tracked by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington trailed all but Philadelphia, Seattle and Houston in total compensation for private workers.
  - ➤ Cities like Philadelphia, Atlanta, and Raleigh/Durham have much lower costs of living leading to higher savings and possible upward economic mobility.
- Among Maryland's 8 largest counties, Montgomery County had the highest level of employment (450,600) in March 2022, but the second-slowest year-over-year increase in employment, just above Anne Arundel County.

Source: Bureau of Labor and Statistics

### Debt Severely Undercutting Buying Power

NAR's 2022 Snapshot of Race & Home Polling Report found student loan debt of homebuyers by race:

	% Reporting Student Loan Debt	Median Amount of Debt Held
Black/African American	43%	\$40,000
Asian/Pacific Islander	16%	\$42,600
White/Caucasian	21%	\$30,000
Hispanic/Latino	24%	\$20,000

Even controlling for income and family help with down payments, demographic differences and housing characteristics, the average cost of a home purchased by someone with student debt is 19% less than other buyers. This reduction in buying power has stark implications in a housing market that has seen year-over-year home price increases for more than nine years.



### Financial Literacy in Education

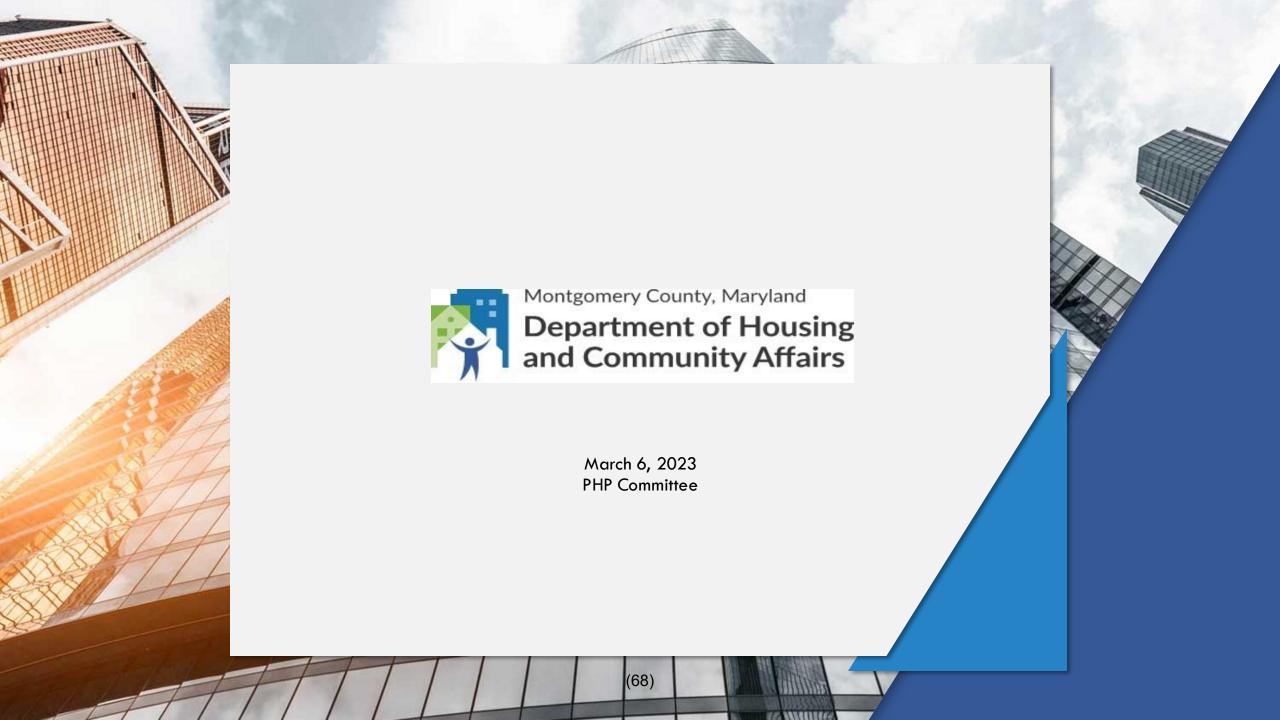
- Knowledge of personal finance can make a huge difference regarding housing and housing decisions.
- In 2015, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, 69% of students enrolled in college in the fall immediately following high school completion. This means that 31% of the remaining students are entering the workforce directly after high school.
- Personal finance education in high school will equip students with the knowledge and skills to manage financial resources effectively that will result in a lifetime of financial well-being.
- ➤ The D.C. Association of REALTORS® has been working on this issue with the D.C. Council over the last few years, and in 2021 the D.C. Financial Literacy Council recommended that financial literacy be integrated into the public-school curriculum.



### **Looking Forward**

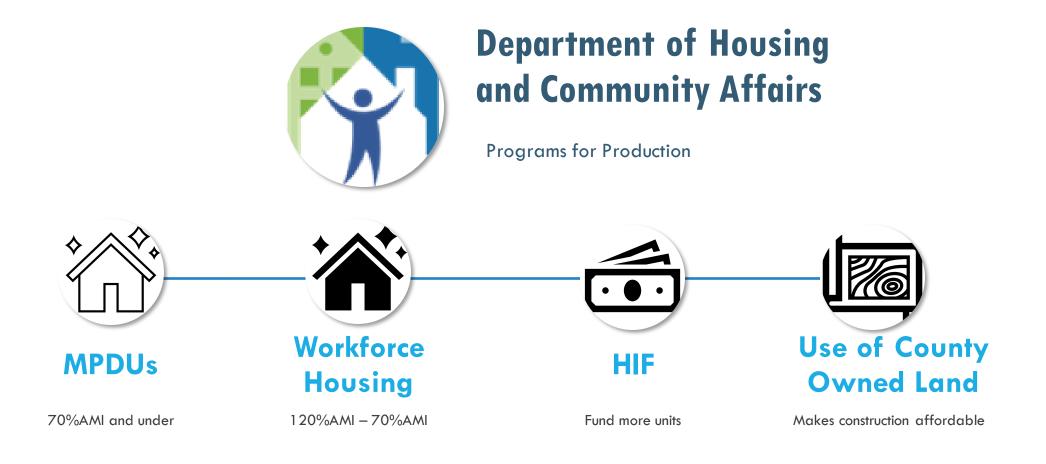
- ► Home prices are cooling, but still holding at higher rates than pre-pandemic.
- ▶ Mortgage rates will go down, but the questions remain: When and how much?
- ► Census Bureau's 2021 American Community Survey cites D.C. as the top city for Gen Z migration. In contrast, Maryland had a net loss of over 15,000 members of the latest generation.
- Inventory is still low, keeping prices inflated above normal levels and days on market low.
  - Production needs to ramp up fast to meet the growing divides in both availability and affordability.

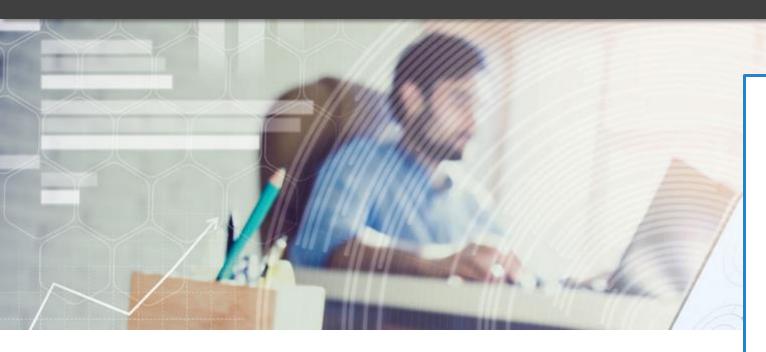






## **PRODUCTION**







70% AMI or below

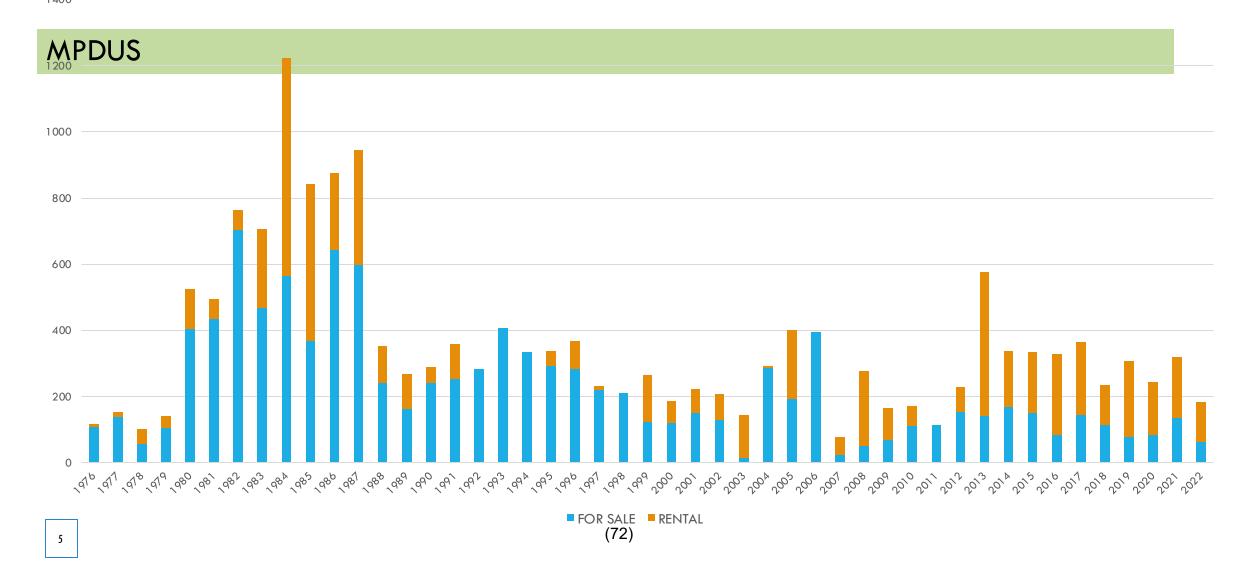
(\$99,500 for 4-person HH)

- > 30-year renewing control period
  - Previous 10-year control period
  - Shared profit to HIF collected for expired units 10-year controls
- > Over 10,500 for sale units ever created:
  - More than 3,600 still in existence
  - Over 1,700 under control period
- Average 226 for-sale / year

## **PRODUCTION**

MPDUs Built by Year 1974-2022





## PRODUCTION — MPDU PROGRAM

#### **DEVELOPERS**



## PRODUCTION — MPDU PROGRAM

#### **PURCHASERS**





This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA-NC

# 2022 MPDU NUMBERS

Average 400 HH on waiting list

- 62 out of 184 units offered were for sale
- > 78 of 1074 new MPDUs will be for sale
- 4,500 new MPDUs in pipelinenot sure % for sale
- Average sales price (new and resales) = \$196,500

(75)

### **PRODUCTION**

#### Workforce Housing Program

## Not mandated by zoning

- 6 new units created in 2022
- 2 more coming in 2023
- Sales Price in 2022 \$473,201

2022 Income Levels			
HH Size	70% AMI	120% AMI	
1	\$69,500	\$119,500	
2	\$79,500	\$136,500	
3	\$89,500	\$153,500	
4	\$99,500	\$171,000	
5	\$10 <b>7,</b> 500	\$184,500	
6	\$115,500	\$198,000	

### **PRODUCTION**

#### Housing Initiative Fund

- Housing Initiatives Fund is used to strategically advance virtually all the County's housing priorities - preservation and rehabilitation
- An innovative resource that provides flexible loans and grants to preserve and produce affordable housing developments throughout the County, while maintaining fiduciary responsibility for investing funds that will eventually be repaid
- HIF is used for a variety housing types including housing for seniors, persons with disabilities, formerly homeless individuals



#### Use of County Owned Land

- County Owned property has been creatively used to produce and provide affordable housing and services to residents
- The County redeploys unused school buildings, parking lots, vacant municipal buildings to create affordable housing
- Since 1996, the County has successfully collaborated with for-profit and non-profit developers to develop affordable housing
- County owned land is leased for 40-99 years for a minimal fee

### RANDOLPH ROAD REDEVELOPMENT

#### Example of an Affordable Housing Project



- Former Montgomery County Department of Recreation Site created 27 homeownership units and 168 rental apartments
- Project includes 85 three- and four-bedroom units, and located near the public transit
- Partnership between AHC Inc., Habitat for Humanity-Metro Maryland, and Interfaith Works

### **AFFORDABILITY**



# Department of Housing and Community Affairs

**Programs for Affordability** 



Montgomery
Homeowner Program

**MHP** 



Montgomery County
Homeownership
Assistance Fund

McHAF



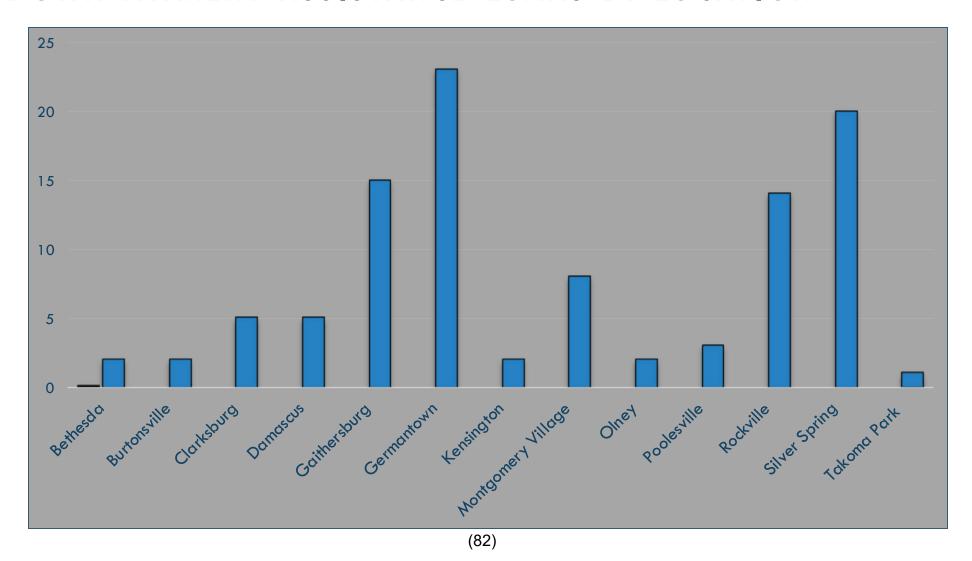
Montgomery Employee
Down Payment
Assistance Loan
MEDPAL

(80)

## FUNDING SOURCES

FY23 DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS					
Program	Vendor	Total Allocated	Loans Made	Average Loan Amount	Average HH Income
MHP	DHCD	\$1.5 Million	54	\$23,699	\$85,253
McHAF	НОС	\$1.5 Million	48	\$24,037	\$85,076
MEDPAL	DHCD	\$1 Million (2-year pilot)	None to date	Will be flat \$25,000	None to date but allowed up to 120%AMI

## FY 23 DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE LOANS BY LOCATION



## SAFE AND HEALTHY HOUSING









## SAFE AND HEALTHY HOUSING — CODE ENFORCEMENT

#### Inspect

- Housing Code
- Solid Waste Code
- Weeds Code

#### **Enforce**

Issue citations – 10 days for overgrown weeks, solid waste and inoperative vehicles



## COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES

- Provides training for boards and communities
- Resolves disputes between residents and associations
- Advises on HOA laws and policies

Online and in-person resources on COC concerns

## SAFE & HEALTHY HOUSING - ENERGY UPGRADES

- Funds from Pepco / Exelon and Washington Gas /Alta Gas Mergers
- Initiated in 2018
  - \$2,600,000 PEPCO customers
  - \$217,000 Washington Gas customers
- Upgrade appliances with more efficient replacements in low-income units
- >68% AMI and appliance over 10 years old







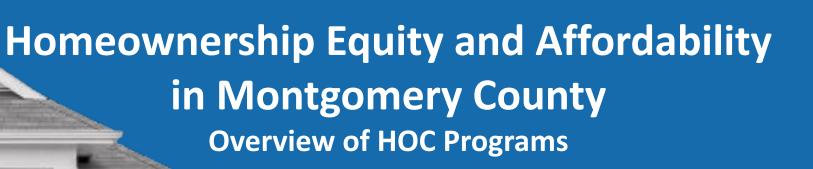
### ENERGY UPGRADES

- ➤ Over 250 households served
- Less than \$250,000 remaining for electric
- Less than \$165,000 remaining for gas

Electric Upgrade Averages			
Year	Number of HH Served	Average per HH cost	
2018	49	\$8,693	
2019	107	\$9,286	
2020	66	\$8,835	
2021	17	\$7,895	
2022	12	\$9,033	
	AVERAGE	\$8,748	



Q&A



Chelsea Andrews
Executive Director

Jennifer Hines Washington Assistant Director of Bond Management Presentation to the Planning, Housing and Parks Committee

March 6, 2023



## ABOUT HOC

#### **Public Housing Authority**

- Rental assistance programs
- Resident services like financial & credit counseling, Family Self Sufficiency program, Fatherhood Initiative and HOC Homeownership Program
- Permanent supportive housing for veterans, individuals with disabilities, individuals experiencing homelessness
- Youth and adult workforce and business development services through affiliated non-profit Housing Opportunities Community Partners

#### **Housing Finance Agency**

- Governmental, Private Activity, 501(c)3, and Taxable Bonds (Rated A2 by Moody's)
- Multifamily financing: \$560m through 2023
- Single family financing: \$30-40m of low-cost mortgages annually
- \$2.5m in closing cost assistance for moderate-income families annually
- Homeownership counseling and education

#### HOC

Seven Commissioners
Appointed by CE &
Confirmed by Council

#### **Owner & Operator**

- 8,881 units owned or managed
  - Multifamily: 5,843 units
  - Scattered sites: 1,595 units
  - Senior housing: 1,443 units

#### **Public Developer**

- HOC currently has 13 construction and major renovations in design, predevelopment or under construction
- 3,270 total units, 1,812 affordable
- \$894 million total construction cost





## **Single Family Program**



# Mortgage Purchase Program ("MPP")



	First Mortgage Products	Down Payment Assistance and Closing Cost Assistance		
Loan Product Types	FHA and Conventional Financing Available	HOC Purchase Assistance	Montgomery County Revolving Closing Cost Assistance	Montgomery County Homeownership Assistance Fund
Program Details	<ul> <li>30-year fixed rate</li> <li>Zero Points</li> <li>Two First Trust options</li> <li>Loan to Value ("LTV") up to 97%</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>3% of sales price</li> <li>0% per annum</li> <li>Secured 5 year deferred loan. If you stay in the property for 5 years the loan is forgiven.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5% of sales price</li> <li>Maximum of \$10,000</li> <li>5% interest rate</li> <li>Amortized over 10 years</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Funded at \$1.5 million in FY23</li> <li>10-year deferred loan</li> <li>Pro rata portion due upon sale during first 10 years.</li> <li>The loan is forgiven after 10 years.</li> </ul>
Restrictions	<ul> <li>Income and Sales Price Limits</li> <li>Credit score of 640; 620 for Crossroads</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Must use with MPP First Mortgage products</li> <li>(93)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Must use with MPP         First Mortgage             products     </li> <li>Must be employed in             Montgomery County</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Loan of up to 40% of qualifying income to maximum of \$25,000.</li> </ul>

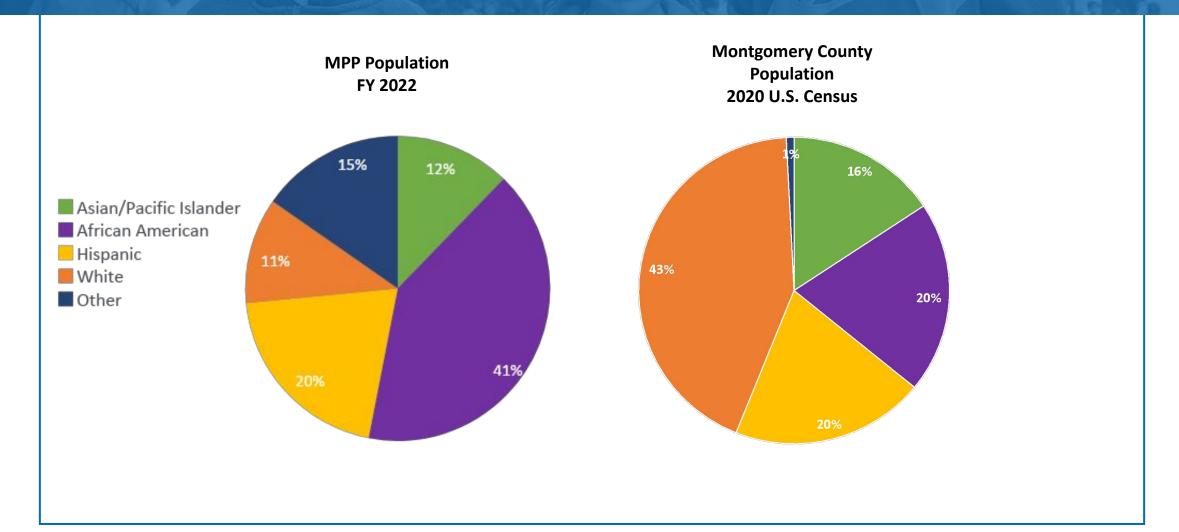


## **Mortgage Purchase Program Activity**

MPP LOAN STATISTICS	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020
Total Principal Amount of Closed Loans	\$26,121,985	\$26,975,792	\$44,312,877
Total # of Closed Loans	98	99	170
Average Principal Mortgage	\$266,551	\$272,483	\$260,664
Average Purchase Price	\$278,529	\$284,621	\$274,241
Average Household Annual Income	\$76,091	\$80,079	\$77,315
Average Age of Primary Borrower	40	37	40
Average Household Size	3	3	3

# Mortgage Purchase Program Demographics









# Financial Literacy & Homeownership Education



- HOC's Resident Services Division offers financial literacy services to its customers and individuals on its waitlist, provided via group workshops and one-on-one coaching. The goals of these services is to:
  - help individuals better manage their finances;
  - improve their credit scores;
  - enhance their chances of obtaining and maintaining their housing; and
  - assist them in achieving homeownership.
- HOC's Single Family Office offers Homeownership workshops for HOC residents, including:
  - credit counseling,
  - budgeting and management of finances,
  - the mortgage application process,
  - obtaining financing,
  - the role of realtors,
  - and an overview of the various mortgage loan products offered by HOC's Mortgage
     Purchase Program.



## Family Self Sufficiency Program

- The Family Self-Sufficiency Program is a congressionally authorized program through HUD administered in Montgomery County by HOC, in coordination with community partners.
- Residents receiving vouchers or living in HUD-financed housing are eligible to participate.
- The Program is designed to help families build wealth by providing direct financial assistance, savings accounts, employment assistance, financial and homeownership education, career training and assistance, educational opportunities, and more.
- Participating families are provided with an interest bearing escrow account made up of the difference of the rent the family pays when entering the program and the increased rent they would be charged as the families earned income increases.

# HOC Homeownership Program "HOC/HOP"



#### HOC/HOP Housing Choice Voucher Program

- This program allows voucher holders to use Housing Choice Vouchers to pay mortgage and other homeownership expenses.
- Applicants must have graduated from or participated in the Family Self-Sufficiency
   Program for at least two years in order to be eligible for this program.

#### HOC/HOP Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) Program

- Certain MPDUs are reserved for purchase by HOC residents and purchased directly from the builder by the matched HOC/HOP participant.
- Open to all residents in HOC-owned or affiliate developments with an income of \$40,000/year or more.
- HOC monitors the accepted units through settlement, if the borrower received MPP financing.
- HOC does not currently have any HOC/HOP for sale MPDU inventory.



# Thank you!





## **Maryland Mortgage Program**

2023

(101)



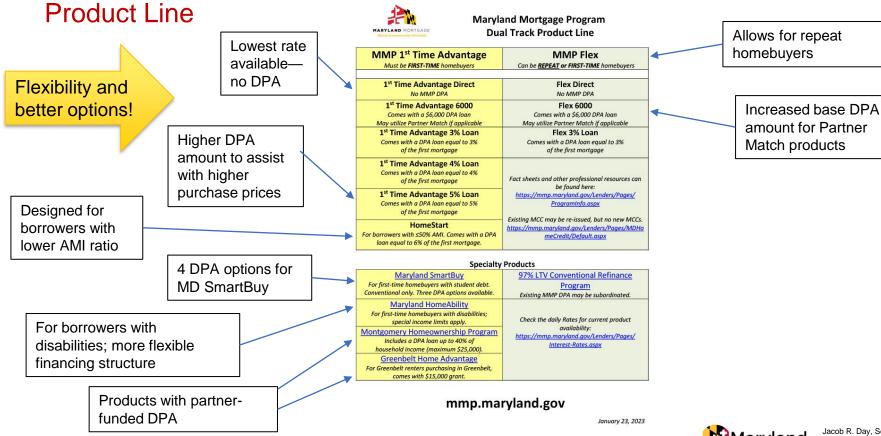


The Maryland Mortgage Program (MMP) provides 30-year fixedrate home loans to eligible homebuyers purchasing in Maryland. MMP offers competitive interest rates, stability, flexibility, and a range of assistance options for down payment and closing costs.

MMP offers FHA, VA, USDA, and Conventional loans through an approved network of 100+ lenders statewide. MMP loans are serviced by US Bank.

More than 98% of MMP borrowers are first-time homebuyers.





Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

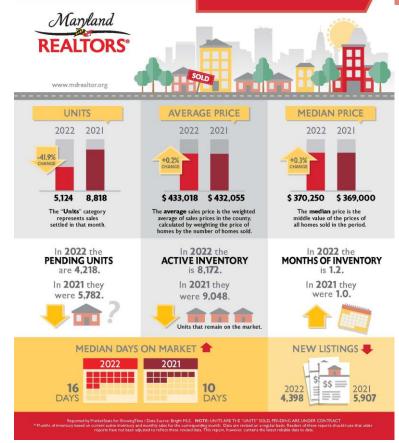
Jacob R. Day, Secretary Owen McEvoy, Deputy Secretary

3

#### **Annual Comparison**

Maryland REALTORS shows the year-over-year activity in December with a drop of 41.9% in unit sales. Their numbers include all homes in Maryland, but the biggest hit was in affordable housing. Home sales fell as sales prices and interest rates rose.

MMP is aligning with the Maryland market.



Maryland

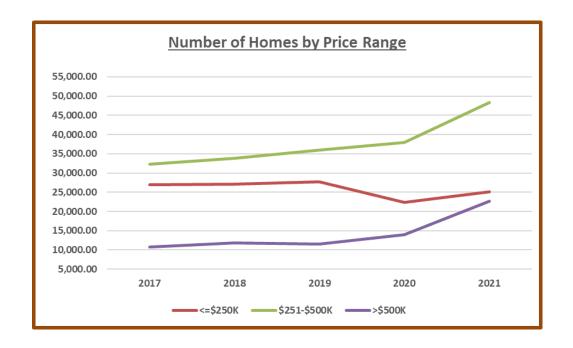
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Jacob R. Day, Secretary Owen McEvoy, Deputy Secretary

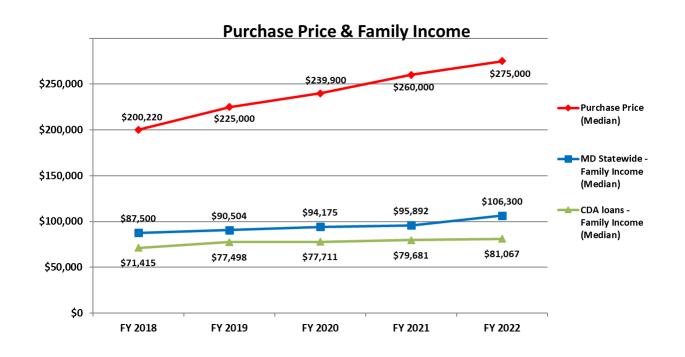
#### Housing Inventory Shortage

Availability of homes in the midto upper price range has increased. The number of homes below \$250,000 dipped and then increased again—but has not returned to the pre-2019 levels.

MMP has income and purchase price limits, so the pool of affordable homes gets even smaller. Many of the available homes are out of the MMP range.



#### MMP Housing Price Comparison to MD and CDA Borrower Income



MMP home purchase prices increased along with the market, but incomes stayed relatively flat. This decreases the affordability.

Almost 70% of MMP borrowers have incomes below 80% AMI.

Over 91% of MMP borrowers use down payment assistance.

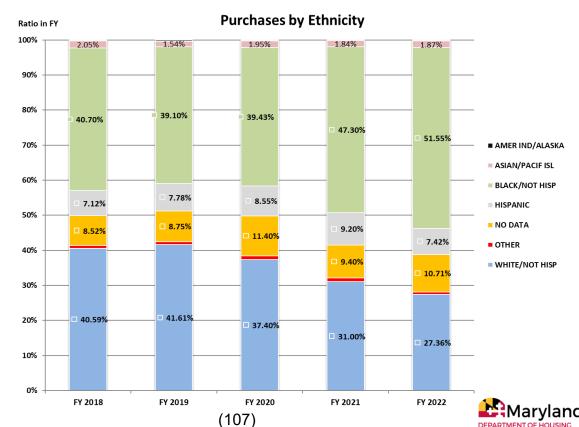


#### **Minority Utilization**

The Maryland Mortgage Program has a solid history of program utilization by minorities.

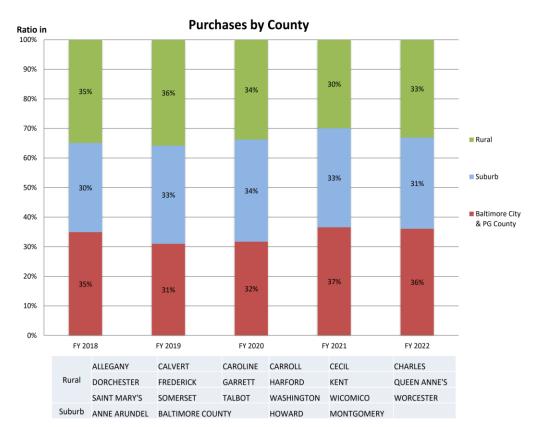
The last half of CY22 had almost 62% minority borrowers.

Over 40% of MMP homebuyers are solo borrowers.



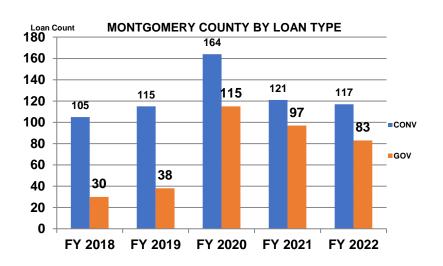
# MMP Coverage

The Maryland Mortgage Program has established a good tradition of consistent and uniform presence throughout the state with loans in every jurisdiction/ county.





#### Montgomery County and MMP



# FY 2022 3% ASIAN/PACIF ISL 18% BLACK/NOT HISP HISPANIC NO DATA OTHER

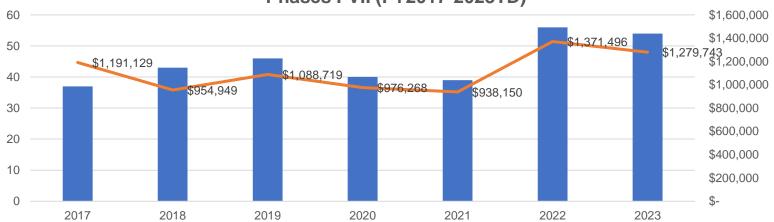
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#### MMP PURCHASES BY COUNTY\_CY 2022





# Montgomery Homeownership Production Phases I-VII (FY2017-2023TD)



Year	#of Loans	Total Loan Amt
2017	37	\$ 1,191,129
2018	43	\$ 954,949
2019	46	\$ 1,088,719
2020	40	\$ 976,268
2021	39	\$ 938,150
2022	56	\$ 1,371,496
2023	54	\$ 1,279,743
<b>Grand Total</b>	315	\$ 7,800,454





	Calendar Year # of Loans		
City	2021	2022	
BETHESDA	1	0	
BURTONSVILLE	3	2	
CLARKSBURG	1	0	
DAMASCUS	2	3	
DERWOOD	1	0	
GAITHERSBURG	12	6	
GERMANTOWN	16	11	
KENSINGTON	0	2	
MONTGOMERY VLG	5	2	
OLNEY	1	2	
POOLESVILLE	2	2	
ROCKVILLE	4	3	
SILVER SPRING	8	12	
TAKOMA PARK	0	1	
Total	56	46	

#### Ongoing Strategies to Tackle Market Challenges

#### Evolving product line

- More options including increased DPA to address higher home prices (DPA depends heavily on the State Budget allocation- over 90%)
- New products with partner funding (Greenbelt Home Advantage, Montgomery Employee DPA Loans, ongoing discussions with the Prince George's County)
- More assistance for borrowers with AMI below 50% (Homestart, SmartBuy DPA option)

#### Facilitated process

- Improved website resources product guides, training videos
- Regular review and streamlining of required documentation; prompt turn times

#### Partner growth

- Ended CY22 with **93 active lenders** (out of 125 approved)
- Developed greater connections with realtor associations
- Always at least half a dozen new lender applications in process
- Shared nearly 20,000 leads to qualified loan officers
- Monthly group training available via Zoom in addition to more focused options
- Business Development Team participated in 240 events and shared information with 7,438 participants

#### New marketing tools

- Increased social media presence
- Product flyers that partners can personalize



#### Social Media Presence

# (a) Maryland MMP









#### **Current Evaluation**

#### **Assets**

- Excellent team. Feedback from events and partners is very positive (for example we have a very close constant communication with the MMBBA board or Directors).
- Product line which evolves to meet market needs.
- Strong relationships with industry partners—US Bank, MD REALTORS, MMBBA, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, private mortgage insurers, housing counselors, affiliate membership with the local realtor associations.

#### **Liabilities**

- Ongoing shortage of affordable housing inventory
- FY24 budget significantly decreased down payment assistance allocation



Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COUNCIL:
PLANNING, HOUSING &
PARKS COMMITTEE

Homeownership Equity
and Affordability in
Montgomery County

March 6, 2023

Mary Hunter
Director of Housing Counseling &
Services



### Who we are

Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc. is a nonprofit affordable housing developer and counseling agency, founded in 1988. We are based in Hyattsville, Maryland.

# **Our Vision**

Every person lives in high-quality affordable housing in a thriving community.

## **Mission Statement**

HIP develops innovative affordable housing, revitalizes neighborhoods and equips people to achieve their housing and financial goals.

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# What we do

# **Affordable Housing Development**

- ☐ Affordable Multifamily Development & Resident Services
- ☐ Single-family Home Rehabilitation and New Construction
- ☐ Neighborhood Revitalization
  - ✓ Home and façade improvements
  - ✓ Health & safety repairs, weatherization upgrades



# What we do

# **Housing Counseling & Services**

- ☐ HUD-Approved Housing Counseling Agency
  - ✓ Rental & Eviction Prevention Counseling
  - ✓ Homebuyer Education
  - ✓ Pre-Purchase Counseling
  - ✓ Mortgage & Foreclosure Prevention Counseling
  - ✓ Post-Purchase Counseling
- ☐ Montgomery County Home Sharing Program
- ☐ Prince George's Housing Stabilization Program
  - ✓ Rapid Rehousing Program
  - ✓ Homeless Prevention Services
- ☐ Gaithersburg Financial Empowerment Center ("FEC")



# **Organizational Values**

#### We are innovative

Whether it's implementing the latest green building technology or launching cutting-edge programs, HIP is nimble, collaborating with others to respond to evolving needs. Key to this is the flexibility and autonomy we give to our staff so they can dare to innovate!

#### We value our integrity

HIP holds itself to the highest ethical standards. Our friends and partners know they can rely on us to be responsible stewards of their investments, and our clients know we will honor their trust.

#### We believe in diversity, equity, and inclusion

HIP is committed to ensuring that our staff and board reflect the diversity of the communities we serve. We work to eliminate racial and systemic inequalities that contribute to housing disparities.

#### We always go the extra mile

HIP's staff is tenacious. Working with our clients and partners, we go to great lengths to find solutions to difficult problems.

#### We believe in the strength and capability of those we serve

HIP meets its clients where they are and walks in partnership with them on their journey to housing and financial security.

#### We believe our staff is our greatest strength

HIP cultivates a compassionate and creative work culture. We intentionally foster a positive work/life balance and invest in our team's professional growth.



# **Homebuyer Education & Community Outreach**



- ✓ Learn about affordable mortgage loans.
- √ Find down-payment and closing cost assistance
- ✓ programs.
- ✓ Understand how your credit will affect your payments.
- Learn how to assemble your team: Realtor, Loan Officer, Home Inspector, Insurance Agent, Settlement Attorney.
- Understand what you are signing (and paying for) at closing.



Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.

Who: Renters, Future Homebuyers

When: Saturdays - Jan 28 | Feb 25 | March 25

Where: Virtual on Zoom
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Fee: \$25.00 (A certificate is provided after completion)

Registration is required.

Call 301-699-3835 or visit

www.HIPhomes.org

Housing Initiative Partnership. Inc. (HIP) is an innovative, green nonprofit housing developer and counseling agency dedicated to revitalizing neighborhoods. HIP creates housing and economic security for low- and moderate-income households and provides services that improve the quality of life in the communities we were across Maryland.

301-699-3835

Montgomery Count 301-916-5946







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# One-on-one Housing Counseling with HUD-Certified Housing Counselors

#### Rental

- · Get help to find affordable rental housing
- Determine the rent you can afford
- · Learn to budget & improve credit
- Know your Fair Housing Rights
- Guidance with Landlord/Tenant disputes

#### **Pre-Purchase**

- Determine if homeownership is right for you
- Discover how much house you can afford
- Understand your credit score
- Save for a down payment
- Choose a good mortgage program

#### Post-Purchase

- Understand your mortgage, property taxes, and insurance
- Receive mortgage refinancing guidance
- Review resources for home repairs and home energy
- · Set realistic financial goals

#### **Foreclosure**

- Understand mortgage options during a financial crisis
- Retain & sustain your home
- Negotiate home retention options with your lender
- Access available mortgage assistance programs

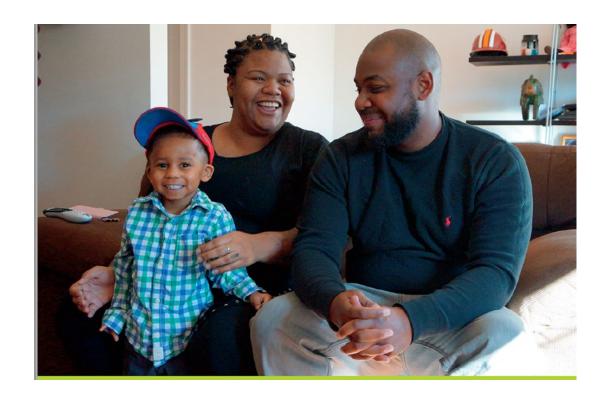




# **Homebuyer Education and Counseling Clients**

#### Served in 2022: 413 Homebuyers

- 55% African-American
- 24% Hispanic
- 11% White, non-Hispanic
- 5% Asian
- 5% More than one race





# **Financial Empowerment Center**

#### Launched in March 2022

- 240 clients and 750 sessions
- 55% Hispanic, 31% African-American
- 85 outcomes so far
  - Reduced debt by 10%
  - Increased credit score by at least 35 points
  - Increased savings







# **Homeownership Preservation Strategies**

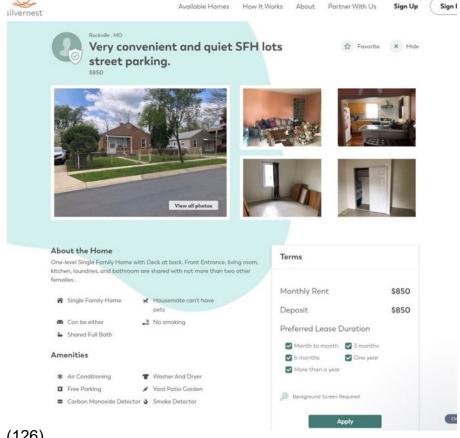


- ✓ Lender Mortgage Retention Options
- ✓ Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF)
- ✓ Maryland Homeowner's Tax Credit
- ✓ Maryland Homeowner Protection Plan
- ✓ Community Referrals (Legal, Employment, etc.)
- ✓ Montgomery County Home Sharing Program



# **Montgomery County Home Sharing Program**





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Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.



United Way of the National Capital Area Proud Partner



#### Connect with HIP:

www.HIPhomes.org www.Facebook.com/HIPhomesMD

> PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY 6525 Belcrest Road, Suite 555 Hyattsville, MD 20782 Phone: 301-699-3835

MONTGOMERY COUNTY Upcounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, Suite 1500 Germantown, MD 20874 Phone: 301-916-5946

MONTGOMERY COUNTY 12 S. Summit Avenue, Ste 100 Gaithersburg, MD 20877 Phone: 301-916-5946



