

Howard County

Self-Sufficiency Indicators FY 2020



Photo credit: Visit Howard County

With a median household income of \$121,160 (in 2019), it's easy to see how we live in one of the wealthiest counties in the U.S. At the same time, 20% of families earn less than it takes to be self-sufficient in Howard County, approximately \$75,000 a year.

Our newest Self-Sufficiency Indicators Report details the risks and experiences of instability according to the following indicators:



Childcare



Finances



Food



Health



Housing

The indicators detail some impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and many are disaggregated by race/ethnicity. Our data show that our neighbors have different experiences across the board due to deep and long-standing systemic factors (i.e., laws, government policies, written and unwritten practices, workplace cultures) that shape our experiences – not because of inherent attributes associated with any given group.

Join Us in Using Data to Build an Equitable Future for All.

READ THE FULL REPORT:
acshoco.org/self-sufficiency-indicators

Report Highlights

PANDEMIC IMPACT



Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA):

Number of households receiving TCA in June 2020 was **more than double** the number in February 2020.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

48% more households utilized SNAP benefits in June 2020 compared to February 2020.



The Howard County Food Bank:

43% more food distributed during January-June 2020 than during July-December 2019.

KEY STATS



Median income of White or Asian households is **40% higher** than that of Black or Hispanic households.

14% increase

in households living below the poverty line – about \$22,000 for a family of three – since 2012.



Almost **1 in 4 renter households** pay more than 50% of their income in rent.

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