

## Intersections in Affordable Housing Measures Background Story

In 2023, the City of Seattle successfully passed the I-135 Social Housing initiative. The I-135 initiative will establish a public developer who will be responsible for developing social homes that serve individuals who earn 0 to 120% of the area median income (AMI). During the first 1.5 years, the Seattle Social Housing Public Developer will receive start-up support from the City of Seattle. All housing projects developed by the Seattle Social Housing Public Developer will never enter the private market, with their rents being based on a percentage of the tenant's income (30%), creating affordable, mixed-income communities with amenities such as daycares

Once upon a time, we found ourselves at the intersection of data and story, where the fields of Maryland and Seattle converged. Our research journey unfolds when we attempt to explore the contrasting landscapes of affordable housing measures through the lens of data narratives.

At this crossroads, we are guided by thought-provoking questions that intersect with the areas of affordable housing initiatives in Maryland and Seattle.

- How does Maryland's emphasis on rehabilitation programs intersect with the approach of new Seattle developments?
- What intersections exist between government-supported housing programs in Maryland and income/rent-controlled properties in Seattle, particularly in terms of property and location density?
- How do the characteristics and densities of affordable housing intersect between Maryland and Seattle?

We examine the comparative effects of government involvement and income/rent control measures on the density and characteristics of affordable housing units in these areas.

As we delved further into the data, interesting patterns emerged at the intersection of Maryland and Seattle. Our preliminary findings reveal intersecting narratives. Rehabilitation programs, often government-backed, have flourished in Maryland, leading to higher unit densities. In contrast, Seattle's emphasis on income/rent controls intersects with many projects, although most have fewer than 10 units subject to such authorities.

Intersections extend beyond physical properties. Geographically, both areas boast affordable units that span different zip codes. However, Maryland shows intersections for ZIP codes with only a few units, while Seattle shows intersections for multiple units for all ZIP codes.

To deepen our understanding, we delved into the intersection, looking for commonalities and differences between Maryland and Seattle data. Through this cross-analysis, we identify key factors driving the contrasting affordable housing measures in these regions.

Early insights gleaned from our research illuminate the intersection between state-backed initiatives in Maryland and higher unit density, while Seattle's focus on income/rent control intersects with broader affordable housing units across the region.

At the intersection of data and stories, we weave a story of how affordable housing measures compare, providing valuable insights into practical strategies for affordable housing programs