

FY2023 ANNUAL SCHOOL TEST AND SCHOOL UTILIZATION REPORT



Description

The Growth and Infrastructure Policy (GIP) requires the Planning Board to certify the results of the Annual School Test before the start of each fiscal year. Planning Staff administered the FY2023 Annual School Test, and have summarized the results in this report for the Board to review. The detailed results are included as an attachment, along with the FY2023 School Utilization Report. Once certified, the Annual School Test results will go into effect on July 1, 2022.

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Montgomery County Planning Board
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HB

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SUMMARY

- The FY2023 Annual School Test evaluates the projected utilization of individual MCPS schools for the 2026-2027 school year and places the service area of those expected to exceed certain utilization level thresholds into Utilization Premium Payment tiers accordingly – Tier 1 for moderate overutilization, Tier 2 for intermediate overutilization, and Tier 3 for high overutilization.
- In FY2023, two high schools and three elementary schools will be placed in a Tier 1 Utilization Premium Payment (UPP), three high schools and four elementary schools will be placed in a Tier 2 UPP, and one elementary school will be placed in a Tier 3 UPP.

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BACKGROUND

On November 16, 2020, the County Council adopted the 2020-2024 Growth and Infrastructure Policy (GIP). Under this policy, the Annual School Test evaluates individual MCPS facilities for their projected capacity utilization 4-years in the future and places the service area of schools expected to be overutilized in a tiered Utilization Premium Payment system – Tier 1 for moderate overutilization, Tier 2 for intermediate overutilization, and Tier 3 for high overutilization.

The Test also determines each school service area’s adequacy ceiling to subsequent tiers, so that development applications that are estimated to generate more students than its ceiling will have their payment factor adjusted upwards to reflect the expected number of students beyond the current tier level.

See Attachment A for the FY2023 Annual School Test results.

The GIP also requires the Planning Department to prepare a School Utilization Report at the time of the Annual School Test, which provides supplemental information about the county’s public school facility usage and trends.

See Attachment B for the FY2023 School Utilization Report.

FY2023 ANNUAL SCHOOL TEST

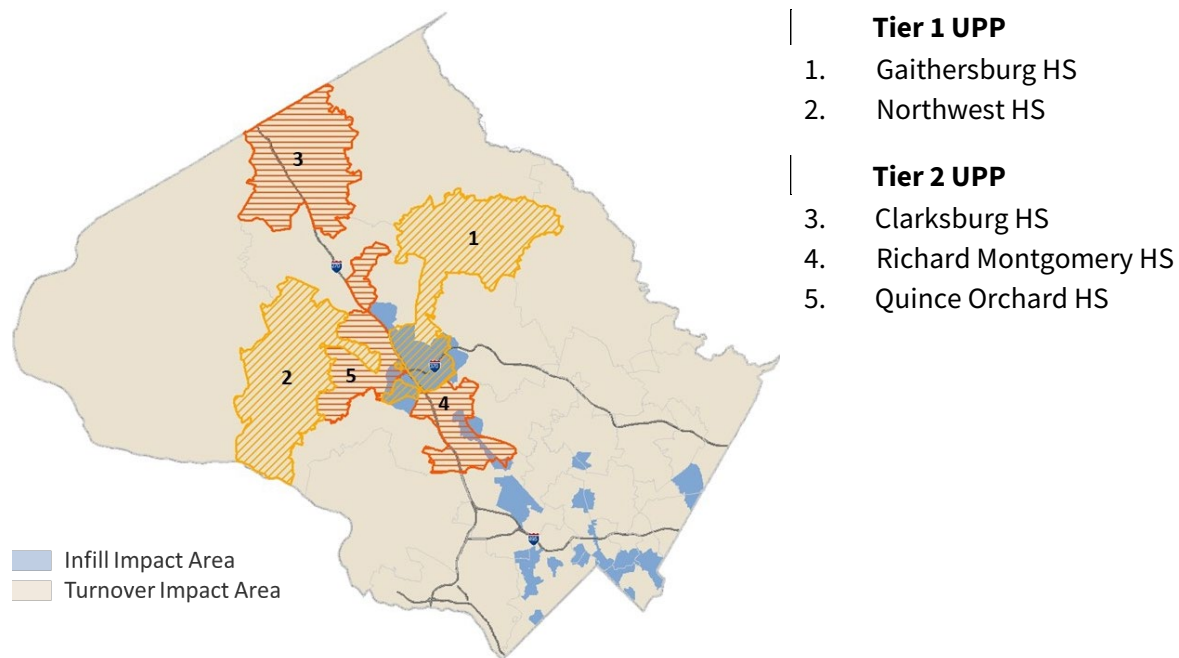
OVERVIEW OF TEST RESULTS / UTILIZATION PREMIUM PAYMENTS

The FY2023 Annual School Test evaluates the projected enrollment and capacity of 203 MCPS schools in the 2026-2027 school year.

UTILIZATION PREMIUM PAYMENT TIERS BY SCHOOL LEVEL

The following school service areas will be placed in Utilization Premium Payment tiers for the duration of FY2023.

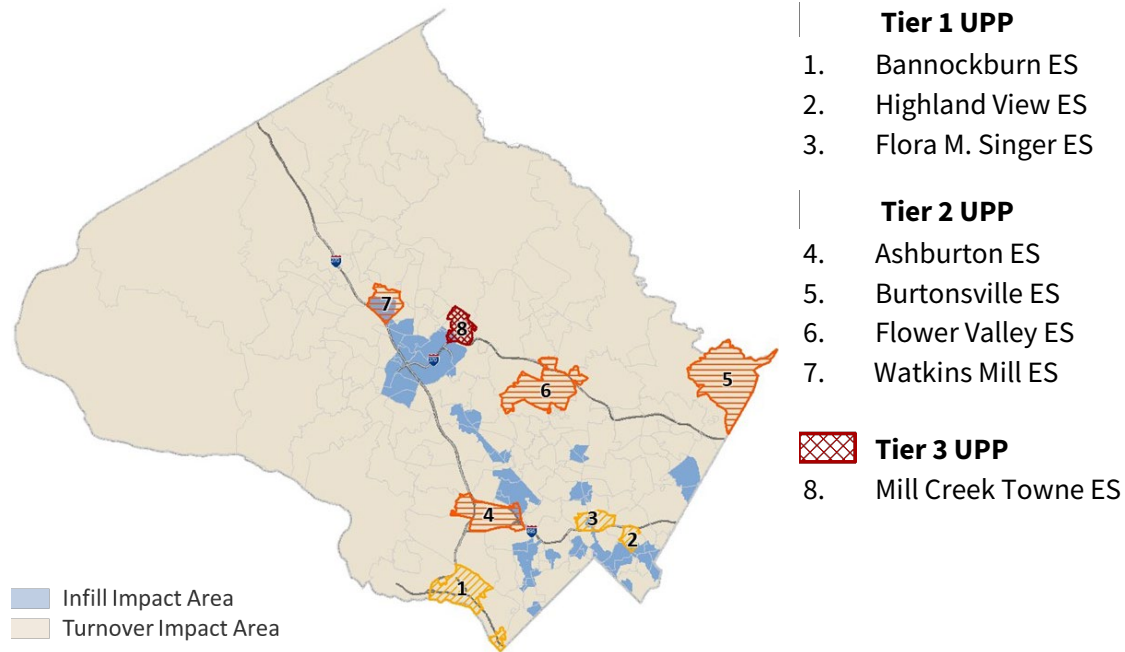
HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE AREAS



MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE AREAS

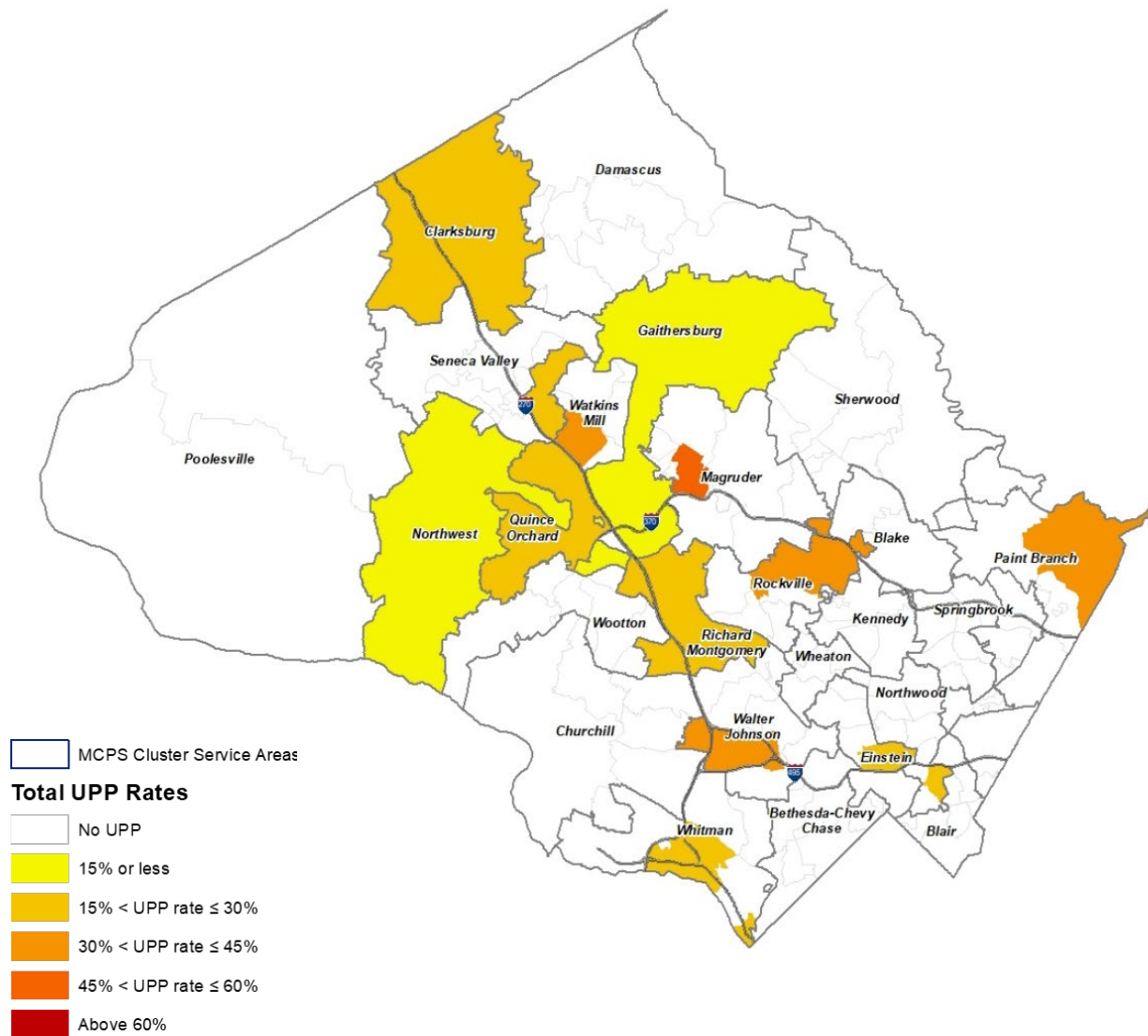
There are no middle schools placed in Utilization Premium Payment tiers.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SERVICE AREAS



TOTAL UTILIZATION PREMIUM PAYMENT RATE BY AREA

The total Utilization Premium Payment rate of a specific area is calculated by summing the payment factor of the UPP tier for each applicable school service area. The map below illustrates how the total UPP rate ranges across the county. A residential development application may be subject to a higher rate than illustrated below if the estimated number of students generated exceeds the adequacy ceiling identified in the Annual School Test results for any of its school service areas.



SCHOOLS APPROACHING ADEQUACY CEILINGS

When a development application is reviewed for school adequacy, the estimated number of students generated by the proposed development is compared to UPP tier ceilings to determine if partial payments are required or if partial payments at multiple tiers are required. These ceilings are identified in the detailed school test results, and the [Annual School Test Guidelines](#) explain how partial payment factors are calculated.

For FY2023, the following schools are within 15 projected students of the next payment tier:

- Bannockburn ES – 11 students from Tier 2
- Farmland ES – 7 students from Tier 1
- Highland View ES – 8 students from Tier 2
- Lake Seneca ES – 4 students from Tier 1

- Flora M. Singer ES – 2 students from Tier 2
- Westover ES – 14 students from Tier 1

ANNUAL SCHOOL TEST GUIDELINES

The Annual School Test Guidelines explain the standards and methodology used in administering the Annual School Test. The FY2023 Annual School Test is conducted according to [Annual School Test Guidelines version 1.0](#), which were approved by the Planning Board on December 17, 2020.

FY2023 SCHOOL UTILIZATION REPORT

The Utilization Report consists of a Countywide Report and Individual Schools Report that provides supplemental information about the county's public school facilities. Each part provides a graphic representation of the enrollment and capacity data of Montgomery County Public Schools and their facility utilization trends. There is also a snapshot of 2021 housing data, which is part of an ongoing effort to provide a housing trends analysis by school service area as additional data is gathered and analyzed.