The supply of housing across the region struggles to keep pace with housing demand. This pushes up rents and home prices for all income groups, including for our service-sector, first responders, and educators. Historically lower-wage jobs, such as in retail, leisure and hospitality, and healthcare, make up an important segment of the region’s workforce; some of the projected largest occupations in NoVA in 2030 include retail workers, cashiers, cleaners, office clerks, waitstaff, and customer service representatives. This creates demand for more deeply affordable housing.

Housing needs continue to evolve as our population ages and becomes more reliant on fixed incomes.

### WHAT IS AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Having an **affordable rental home** ensures a household pays no more than approximately **30%** of its income (before taxes) on rent and related housing costs, such as utilities and insurance. Affordable housing helps Alexandria families, workers, and seniors meet important needs, such as healthy food, healthcare and childcare; build savings; and invest in education.

Affordable housing is also critically important to the city’s economic vitality and competitiveness. Businesses look for a diverse and stable local workforce when deciding to locate, retain, and expand their operations in the city.

### WHY IS THERE DEMAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

1. The supply of housing across the region struggles to keep pace with housing demand. This pushes up rents and home prices for all income groups, including for our service-sector, first responders, and educators. Historically lower-wage jobs, such as in retail, leisure and hospitality, and healthcare, make up an important segment of the region’s workforce; some of the projected largest occupations in NoVA in 2030 include retail workers, cashiers, cleaners, office clerks, waitstaff, and customer service representatives. This creates demand for more deeply affordable housing.

2. Housing needs continue to evolve as our population ages and becomes more reliant on fixed incomes.

### WHO DOES AFFORDABLE HOUSING SERVE?

- **WHO DOES AFFORDABLE HOUSING SERVE?**

  - **RENTAL HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IN THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VA**

  - **WHAT IS AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**

  - **WHY IS THERE DEMAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING?**

  - **WHO DOES AFFORDABLE HOUSING SERVE?**

  - **HOW MUCH OF THE CITY’S RENTAL HOUSING STOCK IS AFFORDABLE?**

  - **LEARN MORE:** [ALEXANDRIAVA.GOV/HOUSING](https://www.alexandriava.gov/housing)

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