Property taxes are significant source of local government revenue and can constitute a large item of household annual expenditure. Annual property taxes vary throughout the country from a low of $209 in Alabama to a high of $1586 inner New Jersey. Megalopolis as a dense urban area of relative affluence has one of the largest property taxes burdens in the country.

There is a wide variation within Megalopolis; the widest spread is paradoxically between two contiguous areas, a low of $200 in Manassas Park to $4466 in Manassas, both municipalities in the state in Virginia.

The lower tax areas tend to be rural and poorer communities such as Washington County in Maryland with a tax of $523. There is a broad swathe of more affluent suburban communities that stretches through the central core of the region from DC up to Boston that have tax levels that range from $1,677 in Mercer County NJ, to $1,851 in Fairfield County CT.

There is a significant cluster of higher taxed counties around the New York metro areas such as Westchester County NY ($2,350) Morris County in New Jersey ($2,008).

Taxes reflect affluence and it is easier to tax richer residents more heavily. Not all affluent communities pay higher property taxes. There is also the influence of local culture where there is a greater willingness to both levy and pay higher property taxes. Often these higher taxes represent more substantial spending on public service especially public schools.