Across the region there are some spectacularly high per capita taxes. In part this is a function of the units of observation. Very small, affluent communities such as Fredericksburg VA, Manassas VA, Falls Church VA and Nantucket MA have very small populations and expensive houses. Manassas and Nantucket for example have populations of only 32,190 and 7,471 respectively and the general revue per capita is $7,622 and $3,447. Elsewhere higher than average taxes are concentrated in the central city areas, where property values and thus property taxes are higher as well as the affluent metro suburbs surrounding Washington DC and New York such as Montgomery MD and Westchester NY.

Areas with a higher general revenue per capita are more affluent in terms of both higher personal incomes and higher property values; they also have greater fiscal ability to spend on public service such as education and police services. The areas represented by green symbols are more able, in principle at least, to spend more on public services.