

FISCAL YEAR 2026 Budget

6/3/2025



MECKLENBURG COUNTY
North Carolina

FY2026 Budget Ordinance

Total Funding:
\$2,542,319,642

County Dollars:
\$1,900,590,823

Allocated Fund Balance:
\$30,659,936

Property Tax Rate:
49.27¢ / \$100 of Value

- Appropriates funds for a period from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
- Established the property tax rate for the County, Law Enforcement Service Districts, & Fire Protection Service Districts
- Approves the fees for Park & Recreation, Land Use & Environmental Services, & Public Health, as presented to the Board on 4/22/2025

County Expenses Due to A Void in State Funding

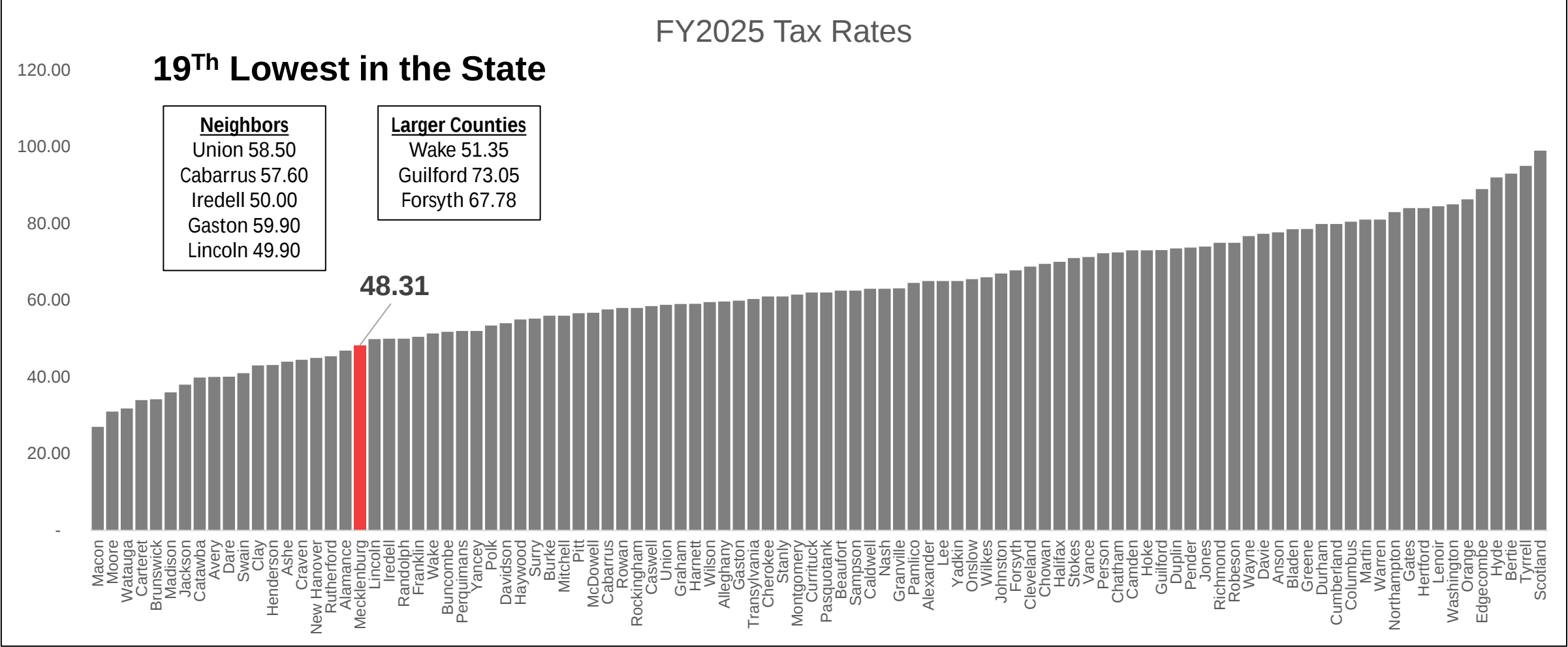
	FY2026
CMS - Operating Support	\$ 429,674,870
CPCC Supplemental Wages & Benefits	10,340,239
Court Support	8,339,502
District Attorney:	\$4,301,012
Public Defender:	\$2,014,036
Trial Court Administrator:	\$1,421,334
Clerk of Court:	\$603,120
Behavioral Health Support	18,678,774
Scrap Tire Disposal	675,244
NC Pre-K Supplement	1,600,000
Foster Care	737,000
State/County Special Assistance Program	3,646,544
In-Home Aide Services	3,121,201
Adult Day Care Services	3,457,690
Gun Permit & Sex Offender Registration	1,910,861
Juvenile Detention	2,215,983
Total	\$484,397,908

\$484M of funding in FY2026 that is needed due to mandates or a lack of sufficient funding from the State

16.08¢ of the Property Tax Rate

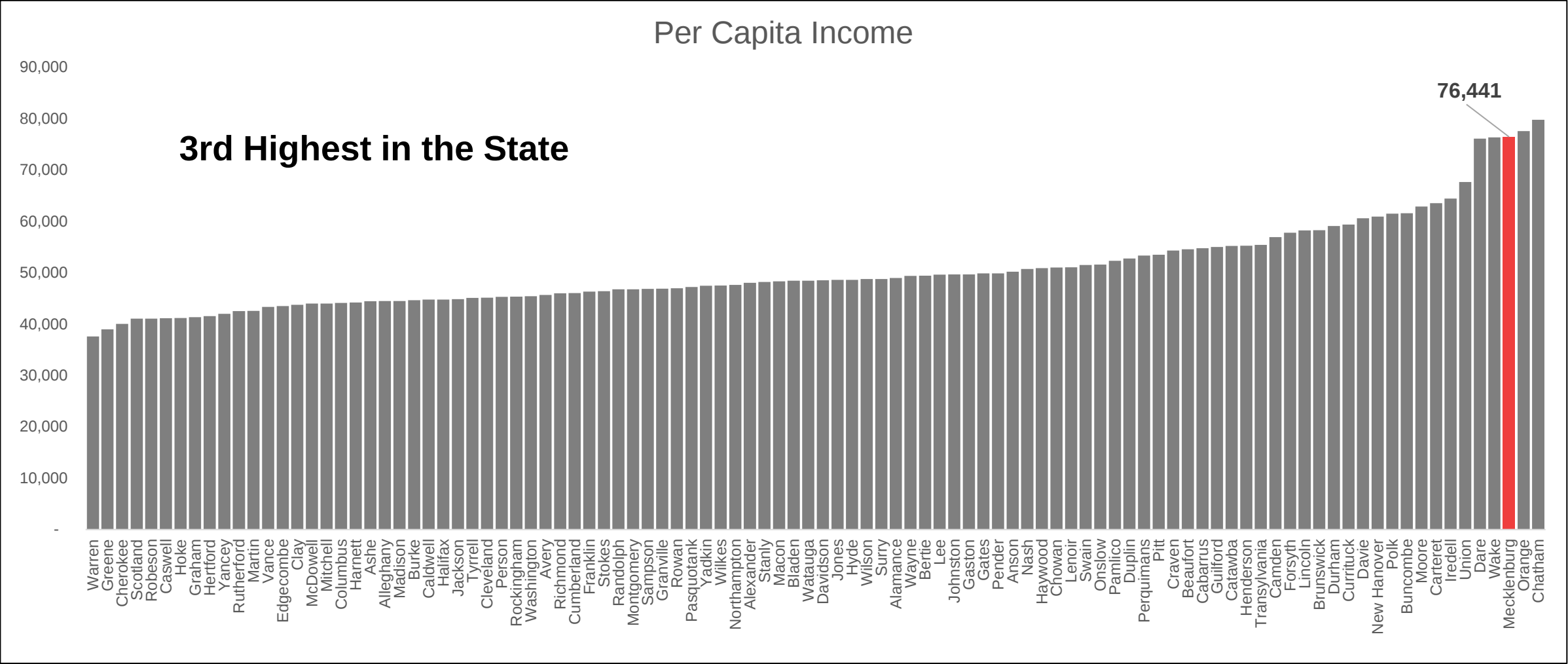
\$2.61B over 6 years since FY2021

Property Tax Rate FY2025



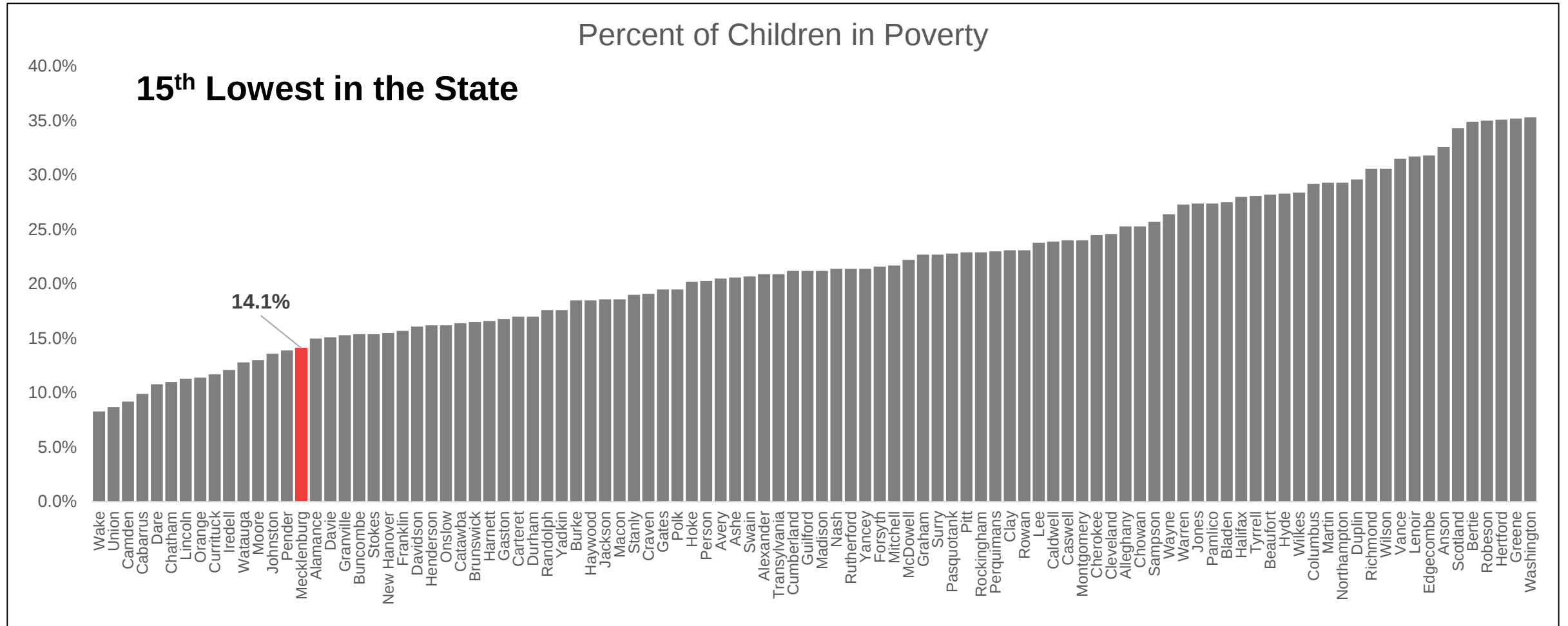
Source: NCACC Map Book at <https://www.ncacc.org/research-and-publications/research/county-data-and-information/>

Per-Capita Income



Source: NCACC Map Book at <https://www.ncacc.org/research-and-publications/research/county-data-and-information/>

% of Children Living in Poverty



Source: NCACC Map Book at <https://www.ncacc.org/research-and-publications/research/county-data-and-information/>

FY2026 – Recommended Rates

Larger Counties

County	Tax Rate
Guilford	73.05
Forsyth ^{R,+}	53.24
Wake ⁺	51.60
➡ Mecklenburg	49.27

Neighboring Counties

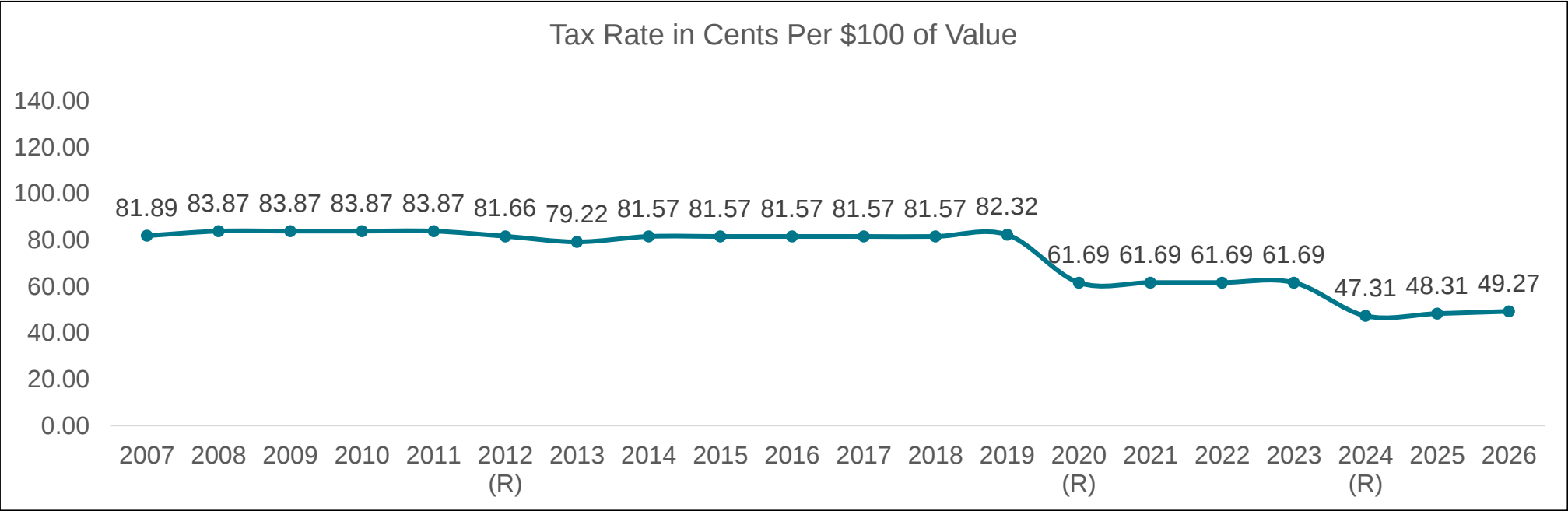
County	Tax Rate
Gaston	59.90
Cabarrus	57.60
Iredell	50.00
Lincoln	49.90
➡ Mecklenburg	49.27
Union ^{R,+}	43.42

^R Revaluation Year

⁺ Proposing Increase

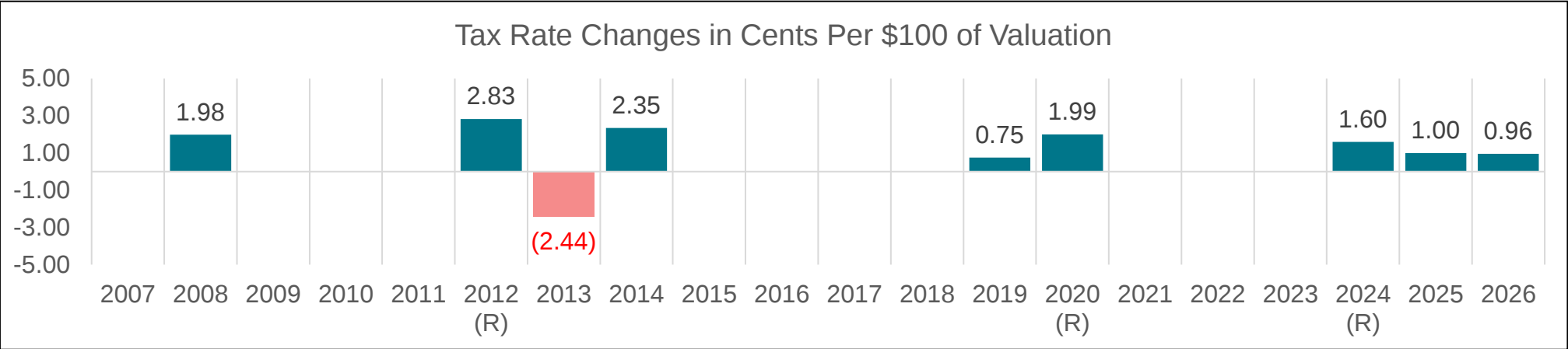
(Wake +0.25 cents | Forsyth +4.2 cents over revenue neutral | Union +1.8 cents over revenue neutral)

Change in Tax Rate



Anticipated
Future Debt
Service Rate
Increase

2027: 0 ¢
2028: 2 ¢
2029: 1 ¢



(R) – Budget impacted by revaluation, change in tax rate is reflected as the change from the revenue neutral
Actual Rate Change (FY2012 -2.21 | FY2020 -20.63 | FY2024 -14.38)

Impact On The Taxpayer

- **0.96¢** for General Fund


\$250,000

	Rate	Annual	Monthly
Current	48.31¢	\$1,207.75	\$100.65
New	49.27¢	\$1,231.75	\$102.65
Increase	0.96¢	\$24.00	\$2.00

- **49.27¢** total County Tax Rate per \$100 of value


\$377,000
(median)

	Rate	Annual	Monthly
Current	48.31¢	\$1,821.29	\$151.77
New	49.27¢	\$1,857.48	\$154.79
Increase	0.96¢	\$36.19	\$3.02

- The median homeowner will pay **\$36.19/year** more or **\$3.02/month**


\$600,000

	Rate	Annual	Monthly
Current	48.31¢	\$2,898.60	\$241.55
New	49.27¢	\$2,956.20	\$246.35
Increase	0.96¢	\$57.60	\$4.80

Impact On HOMES Participants

The HOMES program provides grants to Mecklenburg County homeowners who have lived in their home for at least 3 years, meet the qualifying total household income level, and have no more than 1 delinquent tax bill in the last three years. The amount of the grant is up to 35% of the total County tax bill, with a maximum grant of \$650 for FY2026



\$302,806
Average HOMES
Participant

	Rate	Annual	Monthly	HOMES Grant	Annual With HOMES	Monthly With HOMES
Current	48.31¢	\$1,462.86	\$121.90	\$512.00	\$950.86	\$79.24
New	49.27¢	\$1,491.93	\$124.33	\$522.17	\$969.75	\$80.81
Increase	0.96¢	\$29.07	\$2.42	\$10.17	\$18.90	\$1.57



\$377,000
(median)

	Rate	Annual	Monthly	HOMES Grant	Annual With HOMES	Monthly With HOMES
Current	48.31¢	\$1,821.29	\$151.77	\$637.45	\$1,183.84	\$98.65
New	49.27¢	\$1,857.48	\$154.79	\$650.00	\$1,207.48	\$100.62
Increase	0.96¢	\$36.19	\$3.02	\$12.55	\$23.64	\$1.97

Budget Highlights

- Fully funds CMS budget request with **\$28.3M** in new operating funding, & **\$33M** in total for capital maintenance (a total of **\$699M** overall)
- Expands Meck PreK with **\$3.4M** for 10 classrooms, wrap-care, & teacher pay
- Fully funds the Medic budget request with **\$7.9M** in fund balance for ambulances & equipment, enabling Medic to expand their staff by 78
- Provides **\$2M** & 15 new positions for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library
- Increases funding for Adult Day Care & In-home Aide by **\$2.3M**
- Provides a 3% salary increase for County employees & performance-based pay up to 5%
- Provides the funding to continue delivering valuable County services to Mecklenburg residents for the next fiscal year

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