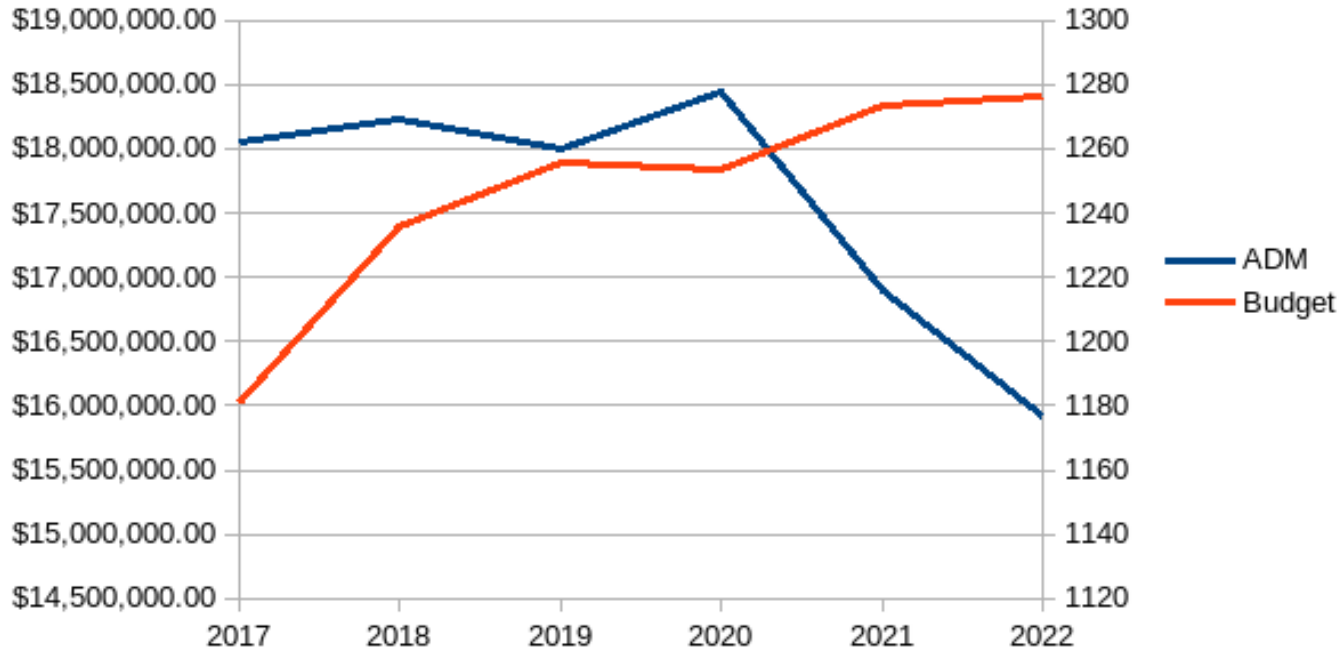


Fair? Let's Talk About Fair.

The School Board Budget - Escalating Cost, Decreasing Student Population

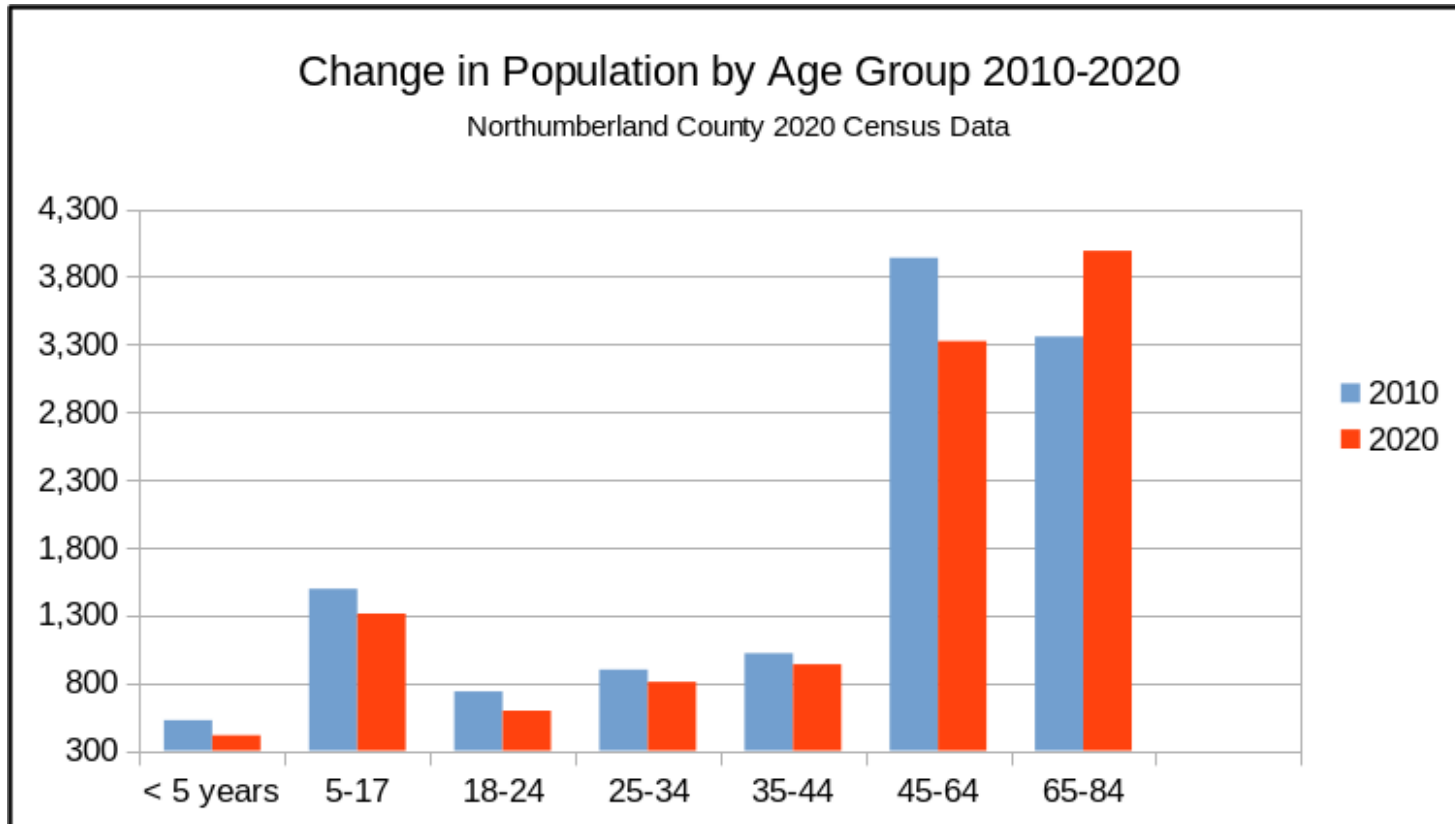
ADM vs School Budget

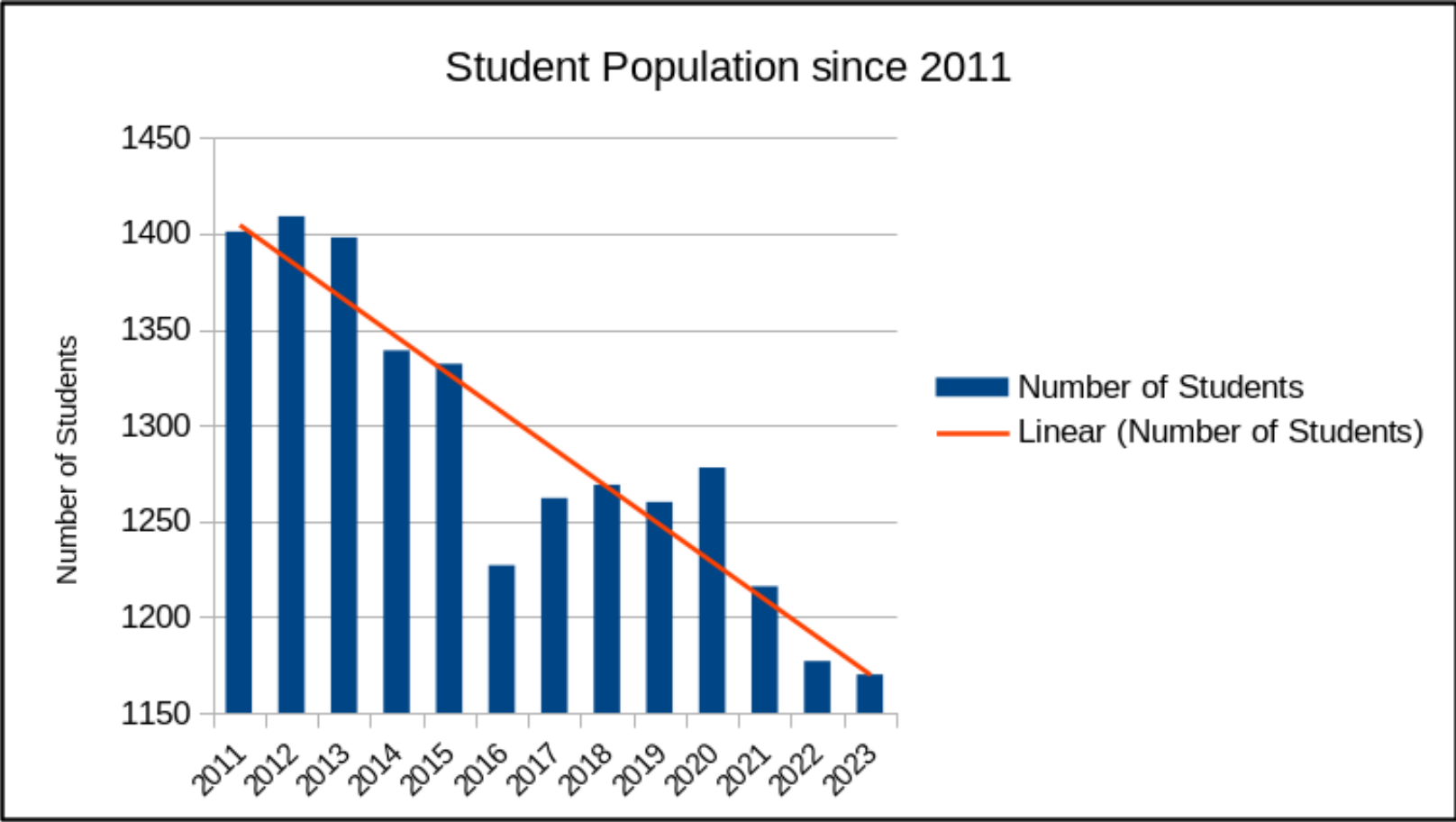


Why?

Will the County continue to fund the
exorbitant school Board Budget
even though....

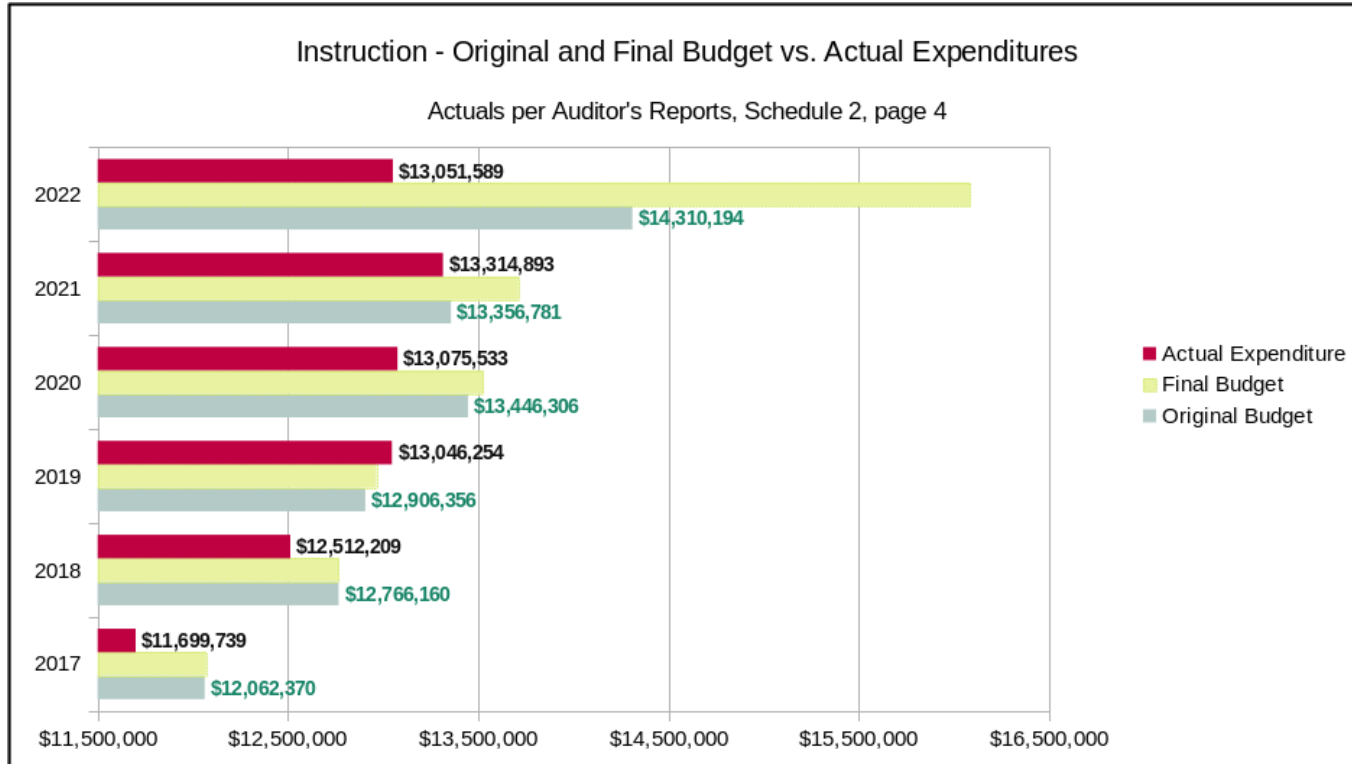
The number of working age and school age residents have both decreased while the number of retirement age residents has increased.





The number of children in school continues to decrease.

For the past six years, actual Instruction expenditures have never gone above \$13.3 Million dollars.



What is driving the additional budgetary request?

Who will bear the increased tax burden to fund the additional School Board budget requests?

The School Board often compares
County Budgets.

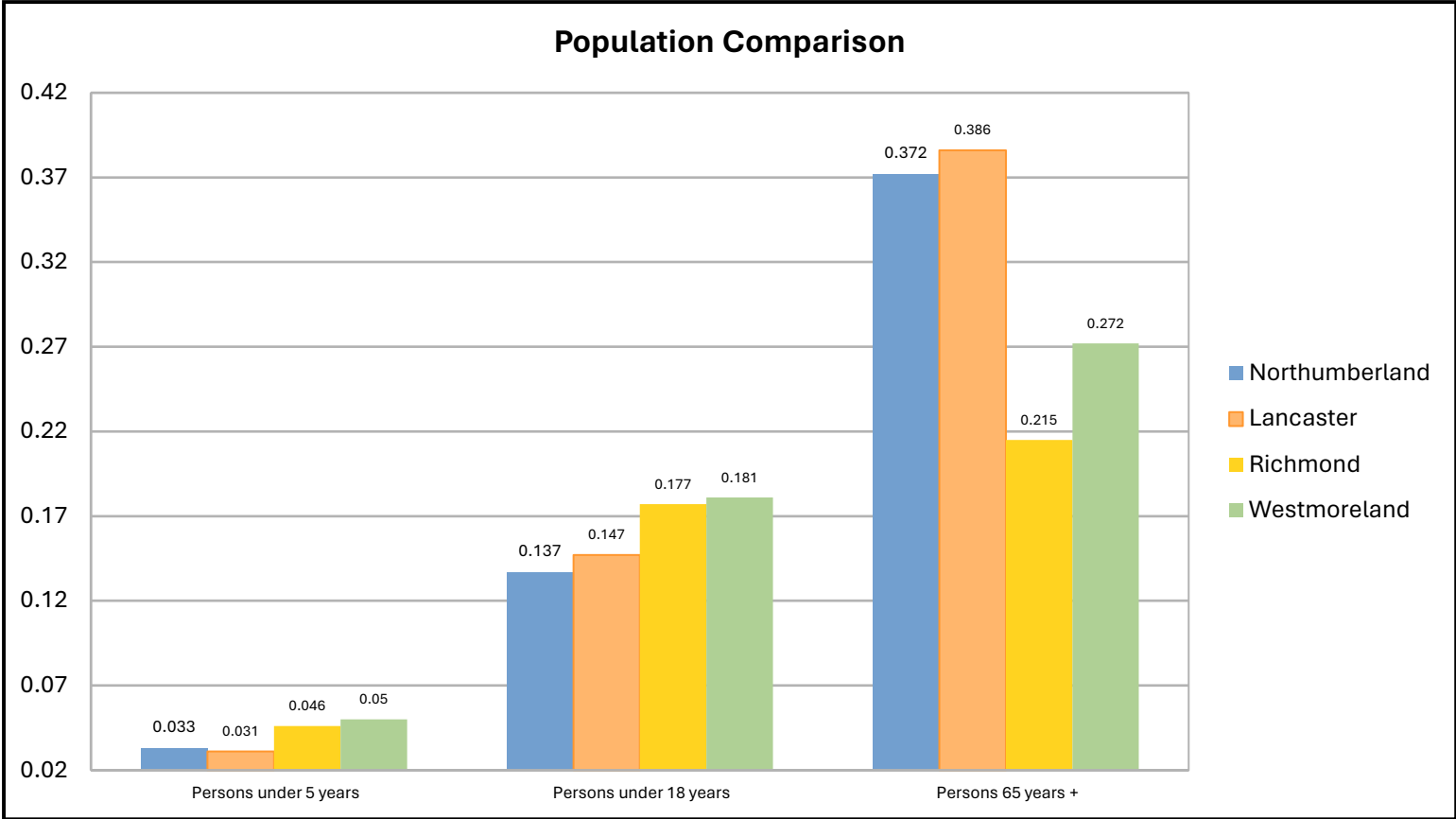
But is it a fair comparison?

The School Board often compares
County Budgets.

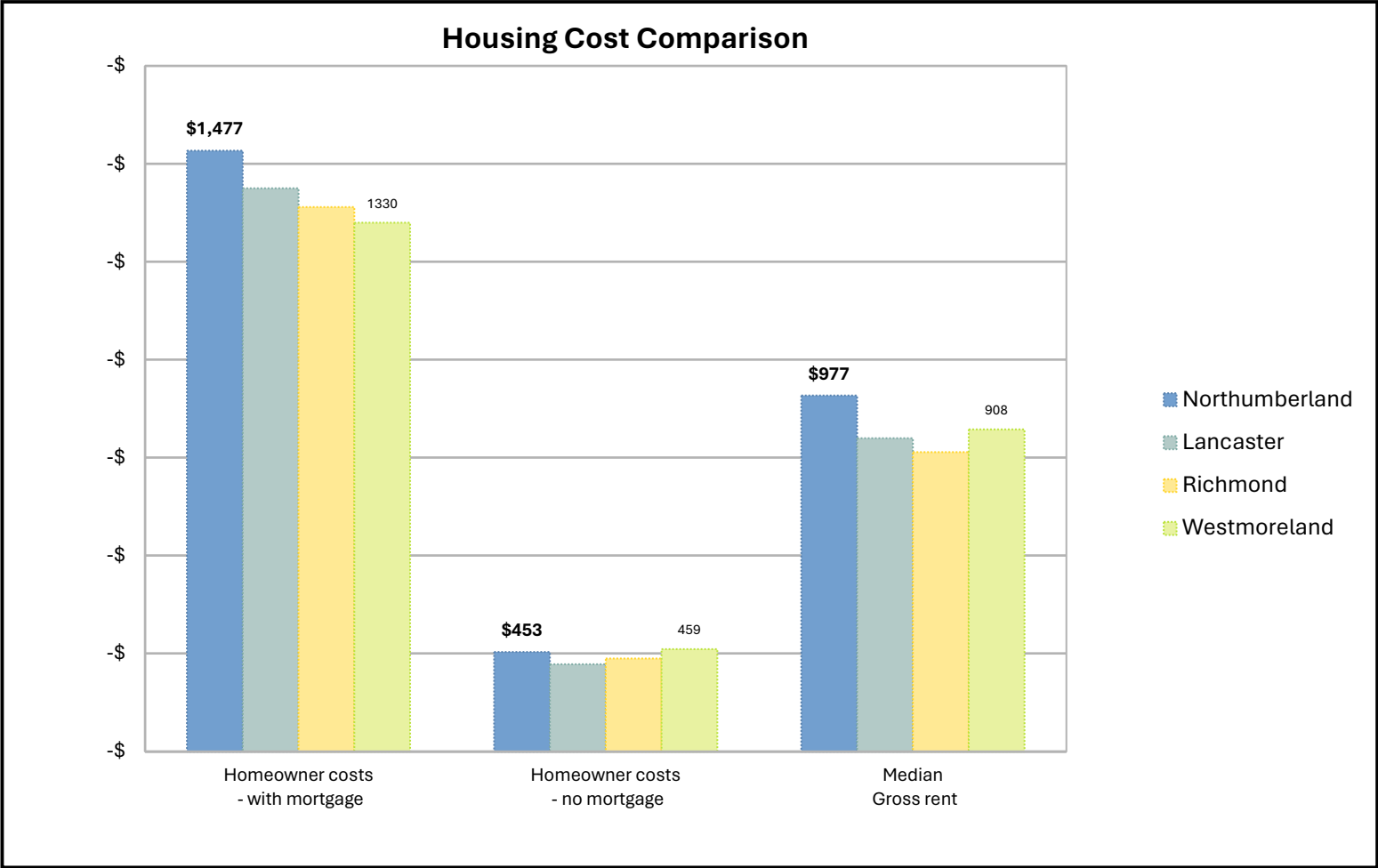
But is it a fair comparison?

Northumberland County has the *lowest* number of residents under the age of 18.

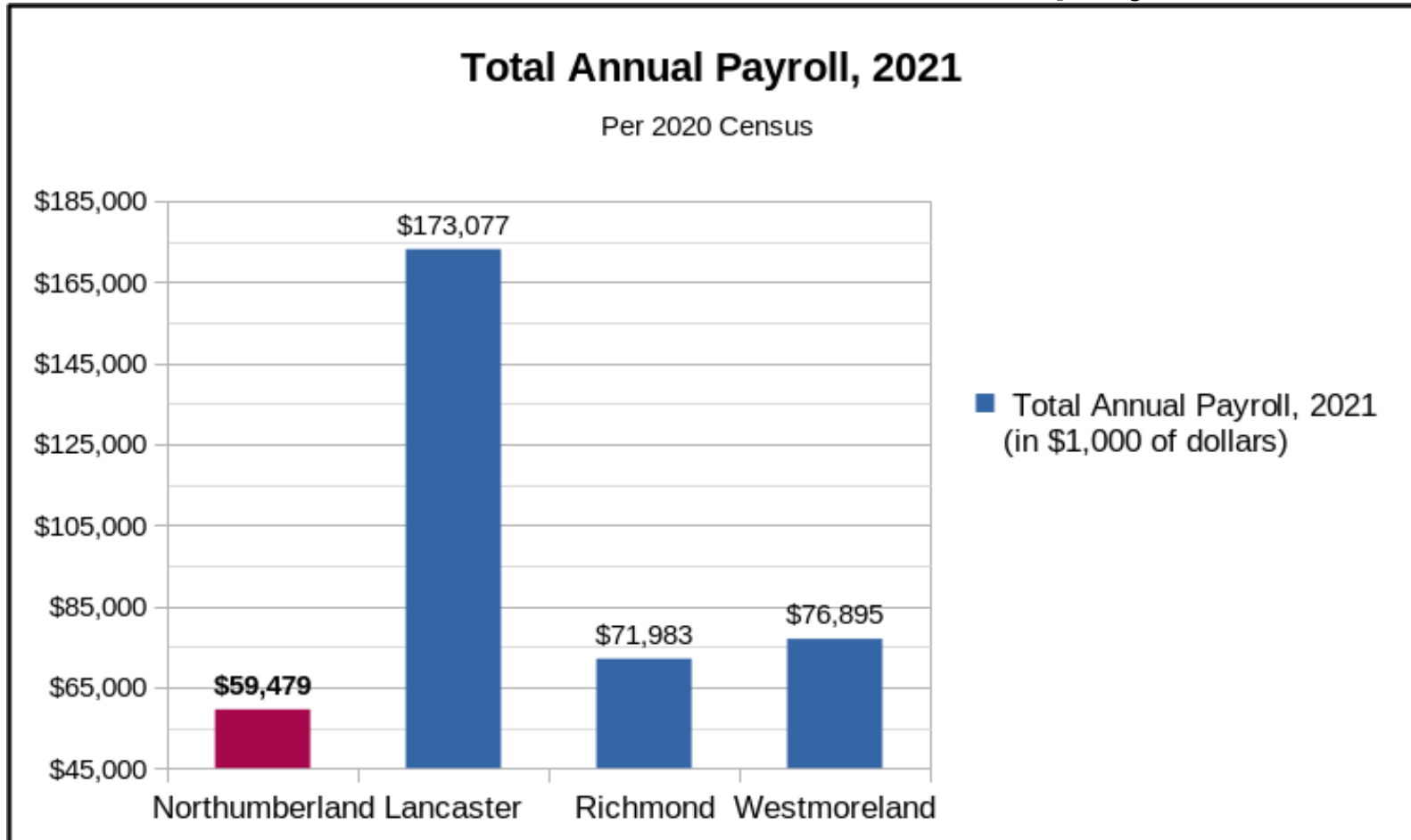
In other words, the smallest student aged population.



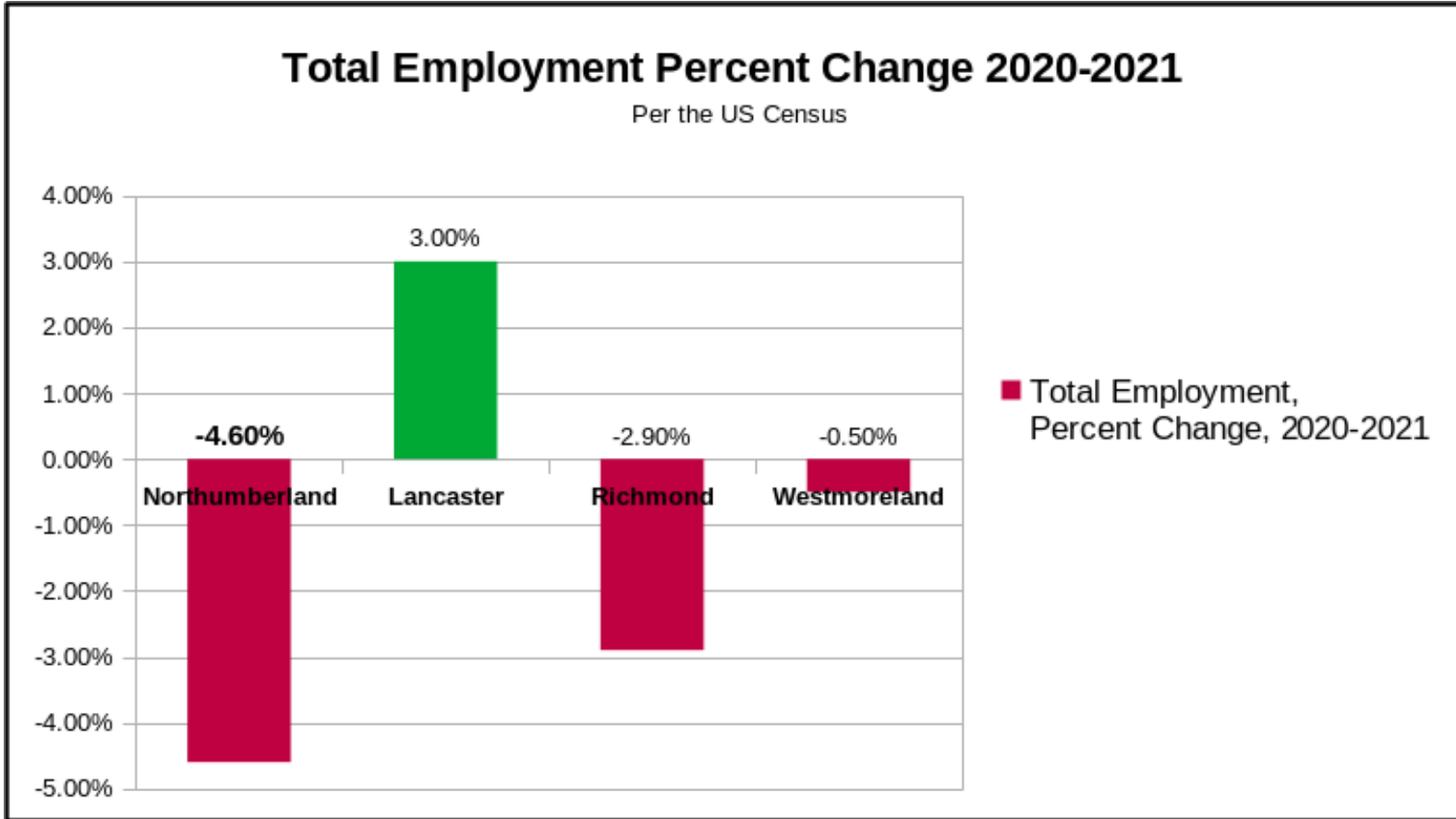
Northumberland County has the highest housing costs....



.....and the lowest total annual payroll



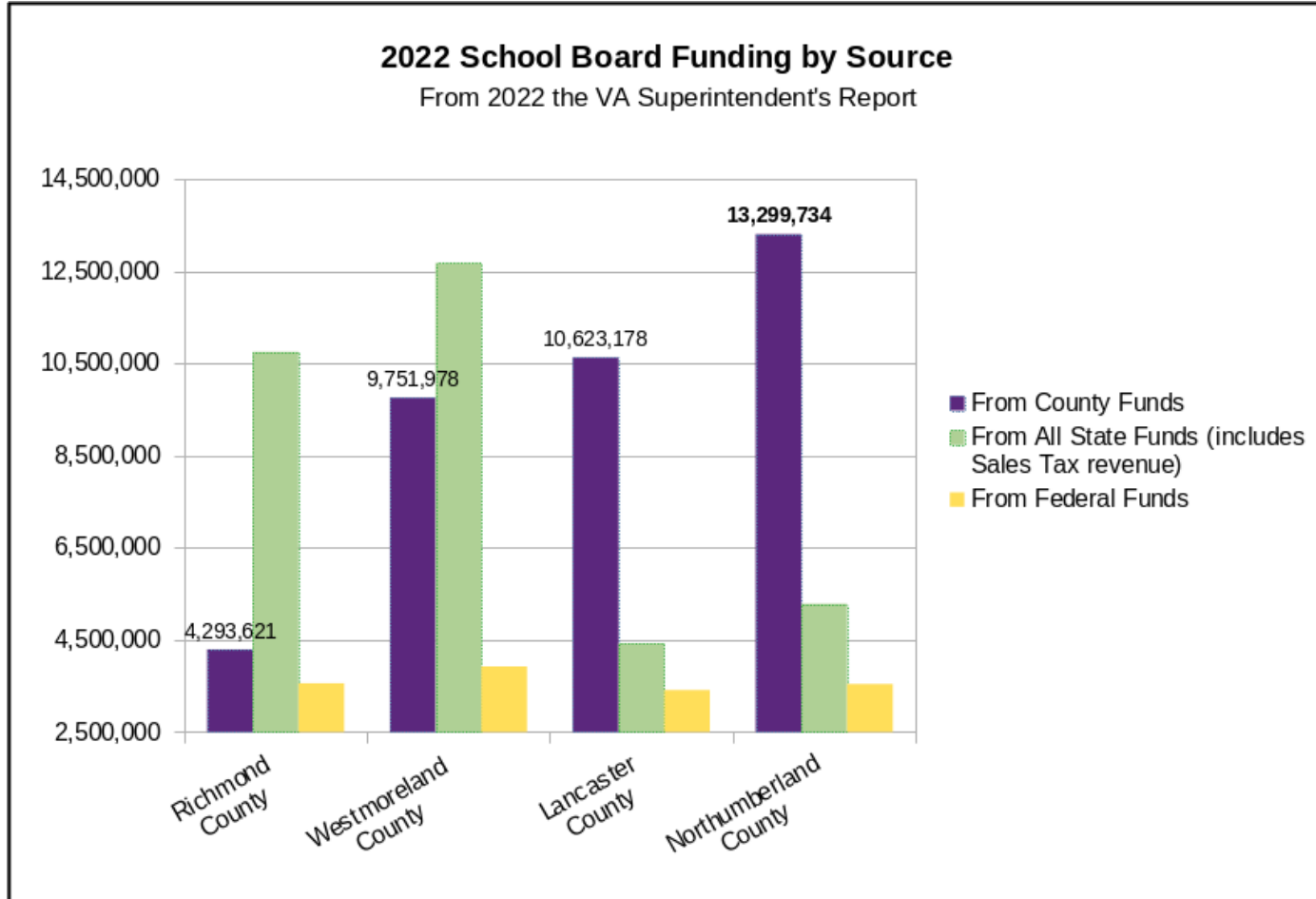
Northumberland County Employment statistics are moving in the wrong direction.



The number of citizens who
contribute to the tax base decreases
and yet....

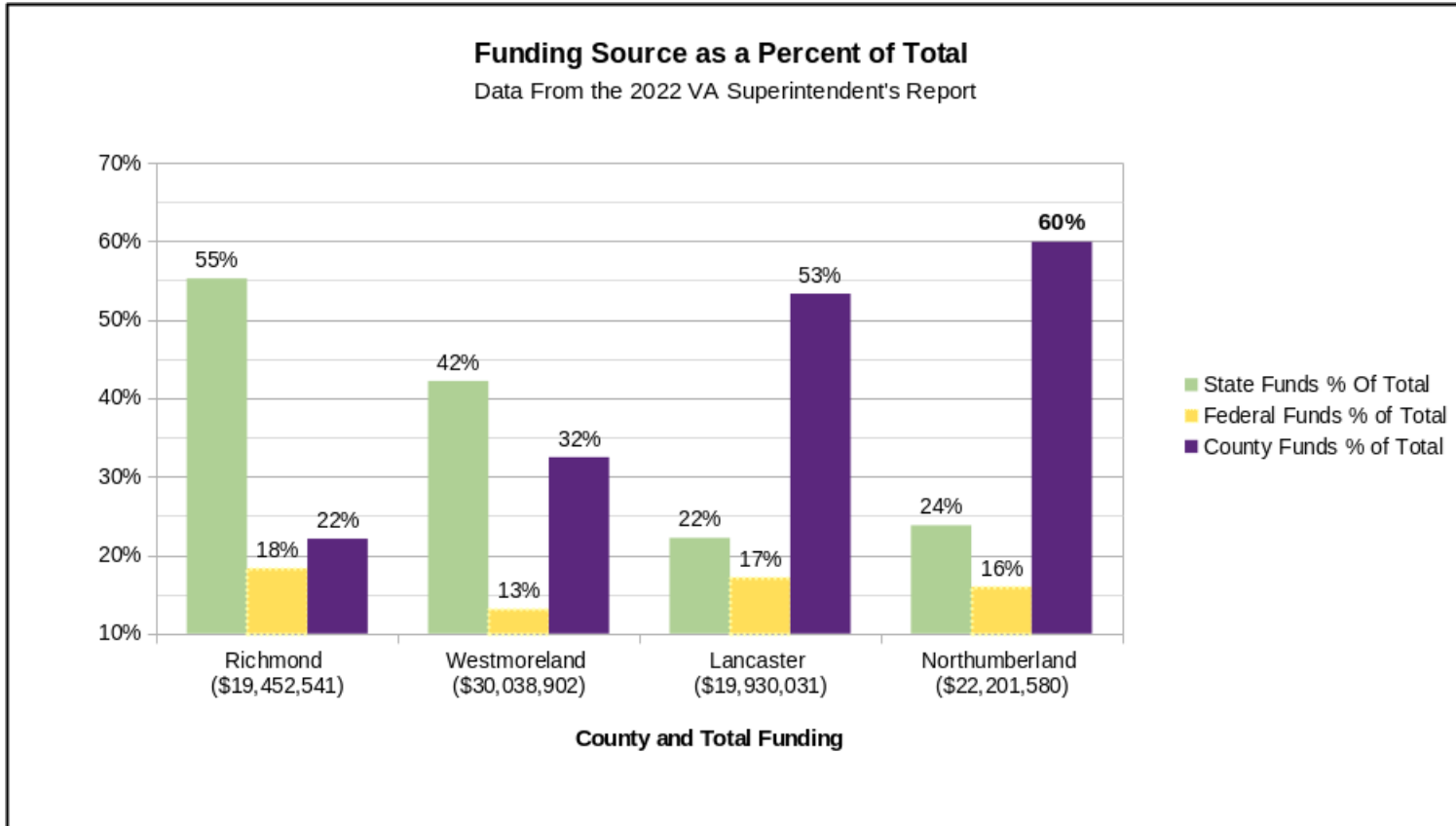
Northumberland has the highest County Contribution Rate.

That \$13 Million dollars is raised from taxes.



In fact, Northumberland County funds 60% of the School Board Budget

The highest county funding among neighboring counties.



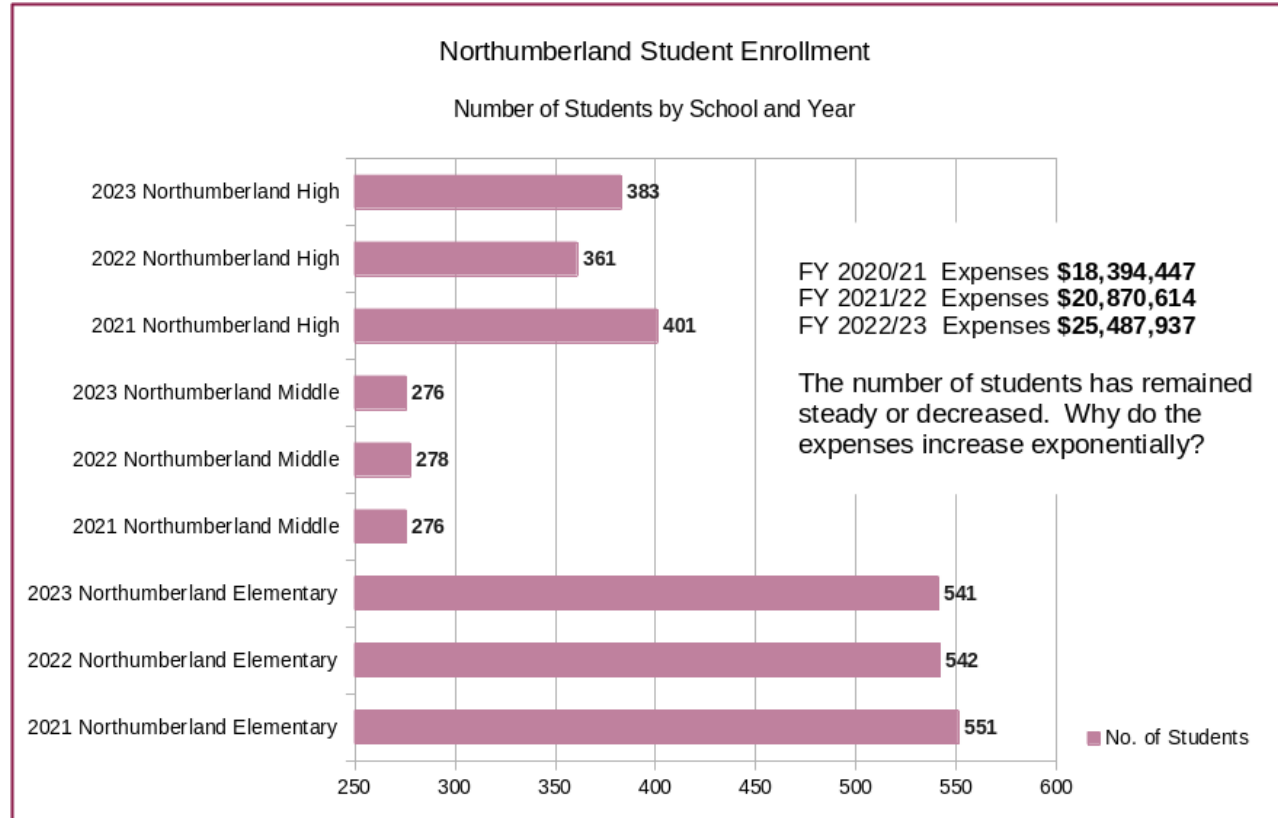
So. What is Fair about....

- .Comparing Northumberland to other school systems
- .Increasing the budget by millions of dollars a year when the student population is decreasing
- .Placing addition tax burden on a shrinking and aging population
- .Expecting other county divisions to 'sharpen their pencils' and decrease their budget requests and *then* voting to allow additional SB budget requests totaling nearly \$1 Million dollars after the budget was approved.
- .How is that fair, especially since....

For the past 3 years, nothing has really changed.

Except, of course the amount of money requested.

Since 2020, the budget has jumped from \$18.4 Million to \$25.5 Million.



Heard at the most recent Board of Supervisor's meeting
where an *additional* \$300,000 was
awarded to the School Board (without oversight):

“We want to be fair to all employees.”
And you should be.

However,
When does **“*fair to all RESIDENTS*”**
enter the discussion?