



2020 Assessor's Report

COVID-19 AND YOUR ASSESSMENT

COVID-19 impacts are not reflected on your 2020 Notices of Value. Here's why:

- 1 2020 assessed values reflect your property value as of January 1, 2020.
- 2 The sales which determine your 2020 assessment are the sales that occurred in 2019.

Any potential impact from the COVID 19 virus would be reflected in market sales during 2020. The 2020 market sales are being analyzed and any impact will be reflected in your 2021 assessments.

It is important to remember that assessments don't determine level of taxation, but rather an equal distribution of taxes approved by your taxing district boards. We encourage individuals to reach out to their elected representatives should they have questions or concerns about local and state property taxes.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES

If you'd like to learn more about my responsibilities as Assessor, please see my 2019 report <https://www.clark.wa.gov/assessor/assessors-report>



Peter Van Nortwick
Assessor

In 2019, we saw the fruition of many years of hard work as the state legislature passed legislation tying the income required to qualify for the Senior Exemption Program to the income level of each county. The result of this legislation increased the income level to qualify in Clark County from \$40,000 to \$50,348.

Another key component of the legislation was lowering the level of veteran disability from 100 percent to 80 percent, so more of our wounded veterans could qualify for the program.

The impact of this change will double the number of households with our most vulnerable tax payers that can qualify for property tax relief.



COVID-19 SERVICE CHANGES

Most of the Joint Lobby visits for the Assessor's Office is taxpayers inquiring and applying for the Senior Exemption Program. With the increase of the income level to \$50,348 more seniors now qualify. To make sure we keep our senior population safe and continue to serve our taxpayers, the Assessor's office has moved to appointment only to meet with Assessor's senior exemption specialists. Appointments will be set in half hour increments between 9 am and 4 pm Monday through Friday. To further protect the public and staff the joint lobby has been reconfigured with proper distance between public seating and screen guards at each station.



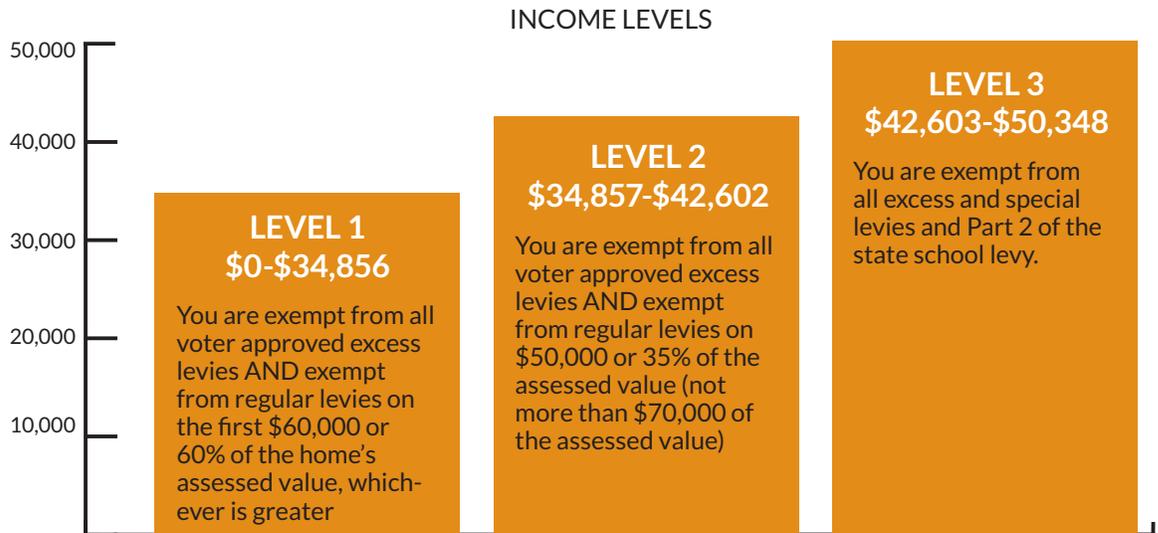
Earlier this year, The Assessor's Office introduced our online portal for the senior exemption program. With the portal, the entire process can be accomplished on-line and due to a change of law only the applicant's signature is required.

IMPACT RELIEF FOR BUSINESSES

We've already started planning for how we can assist businesses with their 2021 assessed valuations based upon what is happening this year due to the COVID-19 virus. My team has developed Commercial Business Impact forms which will be mailed directly to all commercial businesses later this year. The form is intended for owners to share the financial impacts of closures and lost revenues to their business. We will use this information to determine if adjustments to 2021 assessed values for taxes payable in 2022 is warranted.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Under this program, the assessed value of your property is frozen and you will be exempt from all excess levies resulting in a reduction of your property taxes under RCW 84.55.050.



Learn more and apply online at www.clark.wa.gov/assessor

CONTACT INFORMATION

Assessor's Office

1300 Franklin Street, second floor
 Joint Lobby 564.397.2391
 Monday - Friday 9 am to 4:30 pm

www.clark.wa.gov/assessor

Senior citizens or people with disabilities:

taxreduction@clark.wa.gov

Current use: current.use@clark.wa.gov

Assessor: peter.vannortwick@clark.wa.gov

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office

Voice: 360.397.2322 / Relay: 711 or 800.833.6388 / Email: ADA@clark.wa.gov