

Big Idea – Value Depends on Location

Unit rates compare **the cost of one unit**—like the **price per square foot** of a home.

In housing, unit rates reveal **how affordability differs between communities**. Even if a home costs less overall, its **price per square foot** can make it harder for families to find safe, stable, and affordable housing. Math helps us understand these differences so we can talk about **equitable access to housing** and the factors that shape where families can live.

Math + Equity Example

- **Home in Community A:** \$150,000 for 1,000 square feet → **\$150 per square foot**
- **Home in Community B:** \$120,000 for 600 square feet → **\$200 per square foot**

Even though the second home costs less overall, the **unit rate is higher**, making it **less affordable** for many families. Understanding unit rates helps us see how **location, land use, and income inequality** affect access to affordable housing.

Data Reflection

Circle or underline the word that stands out to you:

affordability | fairness | housing | access | opportunity

Share Your Thinking

The word I picked is: _____

I picked this word because:

Reflection:

How does this word connect to what we are learning about housing and equity today?

Student Equity Reflections

1. What does this math example show about how housing costs can differ between communities?

2. Which home in the example has the higher unit rate? What is it?

3. Why does understanding the **cost per square foot** matter when discussing affordable housing?

4. What could be done to make housing more affordable and fair in your community?
