

HDC's 10 Housing and Homelessness Data Points to Keep In Your Back Pocket

- 1 in 3 King County households are cost burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs, and we will need to build 44,000 new affordable homes every five years to address the tremendous need for affordable homes.¹
- According to the National Low-Income Housing Coalitions Gap Report, Washington State only has 29 available affordable homes for every 100 low-income renter households.²
- To afford a market-rate two-bedroom apartment, someone working minimum wage in King County would have to work over 90 hours a week.³
- Construction of new housing hasn't kept pace with increases in jobs in the Puget Sound region. In 2016, there were nearly 100,000 new jobs and just over 20,000 new homes.⁴
- A 6% increase in how much of a person's income they have to spend on a market-rate rental in King County will result in over 100 people falling into homelessness.⁵
- Housing someone directly with accessible on-site supportive services costs \$16,000-\$22,000 a year compared to services provided while experiencing homelessness including emergency room visits (\$30-\$50k) or incarceration which costs (\$39k) a year.⁶
- 54% of renters have delayed medical care because they can't afford it. 95% of renters said that rent was their most important bill.⁷
- 27% of black households are spending more than 50% of their income on rent compared to 13% of white households.¹
- As of 2015, there is an eleven-year life expectancy difference between Seattle and Auburn, and a ten-year life expectancy difference between King County's Asian population and black population.⁸
- 98% of people experiencing homelessness said they would take a safe, affordable housing option if offered to them.⁹

Sources:

1. https://www.kingcounty.gov/~media/initiatives/affordablehousing/documents/report/RAH_Report_Final.ashx?la=en
2. <https://reports.nlihc.org/gap>
3. <https://nlihc.org/resource/nlihc-releases-out-reach-2018>
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6. [Bit.ly/2LaG3rg](https://bit.ly/2LaG3rg) and bit.ly/2ZL31bN
7. https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/news-and-events/news-releases/2019-04_renters-report-housing-costs-significantly-impact-their-health-care
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