Key Findings: Housing Instability

The cost of rental properties is steadily rising.

Between 2015 and 2019, median gross monthly rent in Mecklenburg County increased an average of $30.25 per year, while minimum wage stayed the same ($7.25 per hour). As of 2019, the median gross rent in Mecklenburg County was $1,191 per month. The price of rent is influenced by the availability of affordable housing.

More low- and moderate-income households are struggling to afford and keep their housing.

Renter cost-burden has increased among low- and moderate-income Mecklenburg County households (earning $20,000 to $74,999) since 2012. In addition, the share of Mecklenburg County homes owned by low- and moderate-income households (earning less than $75,000) has decreased from 55% in 2010 to 41% in 2019.

Evictions decreased, but did not disappear in FY21.

Though overall eviction cases filed and granted in Mecklenburg County decreased in FY21 (July 2020 to June 2021), 4,836 evictions (or 35% of all cases filed) were granted in whole or in part. This is compared to 18,195 evictions (or 56% of all cases filed) granted in whole or in part in FY20. Evictions granted include those filed for reasons other than non-payment as well as cases that were not eligible for protection under the Federal and state moratoria (e.g. income limits). In Mecklenburg County, one or more eviction moratoriums were in place for 11 of 12 months of FY21.