

A SUMMARY OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG EVICTIONS

Mecklenburg County has the 9th highest rate of evictions in North Carolina



28,471 Filings

In FY2015, 28,471 households faced formal evictions in Mecklenburg County.



17,640 Judgments

61% of summary ejections granted in whole or in part.



28 Evictions a day

An average of 28 households evicted each day.



Disparities exist

Evictions disproportionately impact black women with children.



97% Fail to pay rent

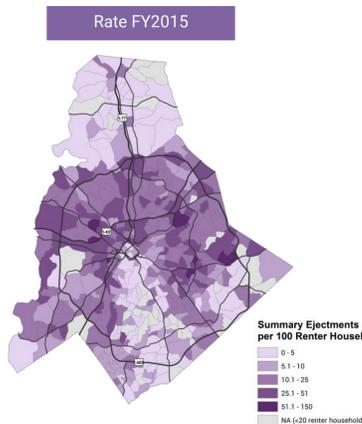
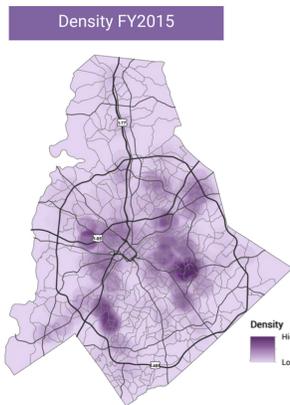
The majority of households were evicted for failure to pay rent. The median amount owed was \$850.



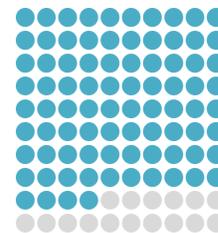
Eviction rate

There are 5.83 evictions per 100 renter households according to the Eviction Lab.

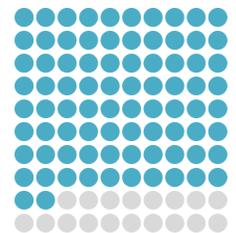
The highest rates of households at risk of formal eviction are found in the crescent of Charlotte



Most landlords have legal representation while tenants rarely appear for trial



84% of tenants are not present in court for their trial



82% of landlords have legal representation

"Eviction functions as a cause, not just a condition of poverty."
- Matthew Desmond

LEARN THE FACTS, GET INVOLVED, CHANGE THE SYSTEM



Prevent evictions by promoting housing stability

We need to link strategy, funding and programs across the continuum from housing instability to homelessness to effectively and comprehensively tackle complex, cross-cutting issues that impact housing. We must also leverage existing systems and resources in the community to provide housing, legal, financial and supportive services to help households maintain housing and provide a pathway to economic opportunity.

What is needed

- Develop cross-sector partnerships and collaborations that maximize existing expertise and resources that lead to housing sustainability.
- Develop a community-wide strategy with all public and private funding and resources for housing, housing instability and homelessness to create a continuum of housing assistance.



Open pathways to housing through education & legal representation

Most landlords have access to legal representation, but the formal eviction process in court can be difficult to maneuver. Most tenants do not have representation and do not appear in court, which increases their likelihood of receiving a judgment for eviction. We must provide access to legal representation and information to tenants and landlords to help reduce evictions and when possible, resolve the issue outside of the court system.

What is needed

- Increase capacity for pro bono legal representation for tenants.
- Provide information on tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities before the eviction process starts.
- Develop a pre-complaint resolution process to allow tenants and landlords to negotiate repayment of rent outside of the court process.

What you can do now

1

Email Hannah Guerrier (Hannahg@legalaidnc.org) to volunteer with the Homeless Prevention Project (HPP), which trains volunteers to educate tenants on their legal rights.

2

Support new and existing housing strategies that collaborate cross-sector, leverage community resources, strengthen tenant – landlord relationships, and promote long-term housing stability.

3

Ask to meet with leaders in your neighborhood, faith community, place of employment, local elected officials and share this information.