



ABOUT THE REPORT

The 2020 SoHIH provides a single, dedicated compilation of all the latest data on housing instability and homelessness pertaining to Charlotte-Mecklenburg. This resource can be used by any and all stakeholders working to address housing instability and homelessness. The annual report combines local, regional, and national data on the full housing continuum (from housing instability to homelessness), and stable (permanent, affordable) housing.

KEY FINDINGS

1

The inventory of permanent, affordable housing in Charlotte-Mecklenburg is decreasing, while the need for permanent, affordable housing increases.

2

There is a 23,060-unit gap of rental units for extremely low-income households who are at or below 30% of Area Median Income in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

3

Households with housing assistance face additional barriers, like Source of Income Discrimination (SOID), to access available permanent, affordable housing.

4

The problems of housing instability and homelessness predate the COVID-19 pandemic; however, COVID-19 has exacerbated these pre-existing conditions.

5

Permanent, affordable housing is critical for individual and public health.

SO, WHAT

The 2020 SoHIH Report lays a foundation for the community to understand how and to what extent COVID-19 has already exacerbated the pre-existing conditions of housing instability and homelessness. Prior to COVID-19, data indicates that more households are facing housing instability and homelessness; and that access to and availability of affordable, permanent housing is decreasing. The global pandemic has exposed historically “hidden” populations facing housing instability and homelessness, such as families paying week to week to stay in hotels. The report indicates that based upon current trends, it is possible that the long-term impact of the global pandemic will result in higher numbers of people experiencing housing instability and homelessness.

SO, WHAT NEXT?



INCREASE AVAILABILITY OF AND ACCESS TO PERMANENT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING

As communities have learned in the wake of COVID-19, permanent, affordable housing is essential to both individual and public health. Therefore, it is critical that all levels of stakeholders use the information in the report to illustrate and advocate for more permanent, affordable housing in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. This resource can be used by all levels of stakeholders who are working to address housing instability and homelessness.

Providers can use the report to provide context for their program-level data, as well as advocate for additional resources.

Elected officials can use the information to inform local funding and policy decisions to accelerate efforts to prevent and end homelessness.

Funders can see the report as a means to allocate resources in alignment with the need, and target investment to focus on impacts rather than simple outputs.

Anyone who is involved in **media, advocacy, or simply connecting information to people** can use this report as a resource to help frame the issues and/or spotlight important narratives.



The 2020 Charlotte-Mecklenburg State of Housing Instability & Homelessness (SoHIH) Report is released by Mecklenburg County Community Support Services. The SoHIH report is part of the annual Housing Instability & Homelessness Report series which is funded by Mecklenburg County Community Support Services and produced by UNC Charlotte Urban Institute.