

The Cost of Affordable Housing in Kent County

\$1039

is the Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom unit in Kent County.

79

is how many hours per week a minimum wage earner would have to work to afford a two - bedroom rental at Fair Market Rates.

\$60,406

is the annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's Fair Market Rate.

40%

of Kent County households lived below the ALICE Threshold* in 2016 according to the United Way Report.

628

children under 18 lived with families with incomes below the poverty level in Kent County in 2016.

69

students lacked a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence in Kent County in September of 2017 according to Kent County Public Schools.

31%

or 2354 households in Kent County rent rather than own.

64%

or more of households renting in Kent County paid 30% or higher of their income on rent.

76%

of the youngest householders (under 25) in Kent County who remained on their own lived below the ALICE Threshold in 2016.

Maryland renters devoted a high percentage of their household income to rent — the fifth highest percentage in the nation. A majority of Kent County renters paid more than 30% of their income on housing leaving an inadequate amount to spend on other basic expenses including child care, food, transportation, health care, technology and taxes. These households make difficult decisions about which basic necessities they cannot afford. The sharp divergence in housing costs and incomes has fueled a long term increase in cost-burdened renters with no end in sight. An analysis of the housing stock in each of Maryland's counties reveals that the available units do not match current needs. There are roughly 382,000 Maryland renters with income below the ALICE Threshold, but only about 322,000 units – subsidized or market-rate affordable – that these households can afford without facing a housing burden.

Data Sources: American Community Survey 2011-17, National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2014,2016, Maryland ALICE Report, 2016, 2017, Kent County Public Schools

*ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed and identifies by state and county the number of households that have incomes above the Federal Poverty Level but are not able to afford the basic household necessities.