The 2019 Housing Need in Buncombe County

Housing is affordable when it comprises no more than 30% of the family's budget. Families that spend more than this on housing are cost-burdened.

30% of Buncombe County are cost-burdened
32,569 households

Renters who have difficulty affording their homes: 49%
18,234 households

Homeowners who have difficulty affording their homes: 21%
14,335 households

Rental Market in Buncombe County

To afford a modest two-bedroom apartment at:
$829/month
A family needs to earn:
$33,160/year
But the average renter can only afford a rent of:
$688/month

Average Annual Salaries

Food prep and service
$19,380
Childcare
$24,250
Retail sales
$26,940
Construction
$27,990
Healthcare
$29,210
Police officer
$44,530

$33,160 income needed to afford a two-bedroom apartment

$61,300 Area Median Income (AMI) for Buncombe County

*Statistics from the American Community Survey, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the North Carolina Court System, the NLIHC 2018 Out of Reach report, and the U.S. Department of Energy.*
North Carolina Energy Burden

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, paying more than 6% of a household’s budget on energy is unaffordable.

Percentage of income spent on energy costs:

- > 8%
- 6% - 8%
- 3% - 6%
- < 3%

Renters

Homeowners

Buncombe County Energy Burden

The average family spends:

- $155 each month on energy costs, or...
- 3.0% of their monthly income

Renters earning less than 50% AMI spend

- $106 average monthly amount spent on energy, or...
- 7.7% of household income

Homeowners earning less than 50% AMI spend

- $152 average monthly amount spent on energy, or...
- 10.7% of household income

When Housing Costs Too Much

When housing costs become too much, a family can lose their home. This takes an incredible toll not only on a family, but also on the entire community.

- 2,278 families in Buncombe County faced an eviction filing this year...
- 12.5% of all cost-burdened renters.

- 74 families in Buncombe County faced a foreclosure this year...
- 0.5% of all cost-burdened homeowners.

Affordable communities are healthier communities with opportunity for all

The North Carolina Housing Coalition’s membership is comprised of organizations and individuals from across the state who make the creation and preservation of affordable housing their mission.

Be part of the solution. Find out how:

919.881.0707 | nchousing.org