



MORRIS COUNTY HOUSING FACT SHEET



PRE-PANDEMIC

3 in 10

were “cost-burdened” (spending 30+% of their pre-tax income on housing). That’s **58,000 households** in Morris Co. alone.

25,000+

Morris Co. households were “severely cost burdened” (spending **half of their pre-tax income** on housing).

\$23.40 / hr

The wage a worker would need to earn to **afford a 1BR apartment** at Fair Market Rent (\$1218/mo) in Morris County.

IN THIS MOMENT

Because of unemployment due to COVID-19, an estimated **10,000+** rental households in Morris County are behind on their rent. Others are worried about foreclosure.

In a typical year, **3,000+** Morris County households are taken to landlord-tenant court (mostly for evictions). Experts expect that number to **more than double** in 2021.

KEY STORIES WE HEARD

Landlords refusing to make major repairs and address infestations (mice, cockroaches)



Tenants vacating due to uninhabitable conditions



Landlords renovating and raising rent significantly

- Tenants seeing **illegal lockouts & harassment** from landlords before & during the pandemic
- Tenants needing greater knowledge & awareness of legal services, rights, rent control, and more
- Families spending **\$800 per month** to rent a room in a shared apartment

- People leaving Morristown because of the **high cost of living** both in recent years & during the pandemic
- Landlords using **late fees, penalties, and surcharges** to make it harder for tenants to catch up
- Families and seniors being **told they will need to wait years** for access to housing that is affordable

GET INVOLVED

Visit njtogether.org/morris
Email morris@njtogether.org

Compiled by faith & non-profit leaders working with New Jersey Together from Wind of the Spirit, Presbyterian Church in Morristown, Church of God in Christ For All Saints, and St. Margaret’s Church